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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH

ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE

Department of Minnesota,

GRAND ARMY

OF THE REPUBLIC,

UNDER THE NEW ORGANIZATION, AND THE TWENTY-EIGHTH

UNDER THE OLD ORGANIZATION.

Ford's Music Hall, St. Paul, February 27th and 28th.

1895.

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SAM R. VAN SANT,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER 1894.

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DEPARTMENT ORDERS.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., February 22, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. I.

In sending out this, my first General Order, I desire to sincerely thank the comrades for the distinguished honor conferred upon me in electing me Department Commander. I ask the earnest and active support of every comrade in Minnesota. My best efforts shall be to strengthen and build up the order that we all love so well. If my ability was equal to my zeal success would be assured in advance. Comrades, remember that without your aid we must fail, with it I am sure that we cannot only hold our own but greatly increase our numbers. I am the more satisfied of this after meeting you in our encampment and listening to the great vigor with which you defended the right and opposed the wrong. Thousands of Ex-Union Soldiers in our state are still outside our ranks; let us not rest or lay down our arms until all are gathered within the fold of the Grand Army of the Republic.

I. At the 14th annual encampment of the Department of Minnesota, G. A. R., held at Harmonia Hall, Minneapolis, February 13th and 14th, the following comrades were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Sam R. Van Sant.....	Post No. 45, Department Commander.
A. H. Reed.....	" 28, Senior Vice Commander.
C. W. McKay.....	" 33, Junior Vice Commander.
H. G. Bilbie.....	" 128, Department Chaplain.
J. M. Tucker.....	" 89, Medical Director.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

Thomas Montgomery	Post No. 37, St. Peter.
R. C. Livingston	" 3, Spring Valley.
J. M. D. Craft	" 47, Farmington.
Perry Starkweather.....	" 126, Minneapolis.
L. W. Collins.....	" 134, St. Cloud.

REPRESENTATIVES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT, 1894.

AT LARGE.

Delegates: { Robert Stratton Post No. 4, Minneapolis.
 { J. H. Davidson " 21, St. Paul.

Alternates: { E. R. Perkins..... " 57, Excelsior.
 { B. S. Merry..... " 69, Stillwater.

DELEGATES BY DISTRICTS.

1st District,	Geo. B. Arnold	Post No. 32, Kasson.
2d	" J. H. Baker.....	" 19, Mankato.
3d	" James Hunter	" 123, Faribault.
4th	" John Espey.....	" 21, St. Paul.
5th	" B. M. Hicks	" 119, Minneapolis.
6th	" L. W. Collins.....	" 134, St. Cloud.
7th	" M. S. Converse	" 67, Detroit.

ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS.

1st District,	A. E. Christie.....	Post No. 66, Austin.
2d	" C. C. Goodnow.....	" 95, Pipestone.
3d	" D. S. Hall	" 59, Stewart.
4th	" Samuel Bloomer....	" 1, Stillwater.
5th	" Wm. Leitz.....	" 22, Minneapolis.
6th	" N. A. Gearhart	" 128, Duluth.
7th	" J. B. Ashelman	" 62, Ada.

II. The following staff appointments are hereby announced:

J. K. Mertz, Post No. 4, Minneapolis, Assistant Adjutant General.

E. N. Leavens, Post No. 123, Faribault, Assistant Quartermaster General.

Ell Torrance, Post No. 126, Minneapolis, Judge Advocate.

Harrison White, Post No. 166, Beaver Creek, Department Inspector.

G. S. Ives, Post. No. 37, St. Peter, Chief Mustering Officer.

III. Department Headquarters will remain at Room 1117 Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis, and all communications to these headquarters should be addressed to the Assistant Adjutant General. Comrades from different parts of the state, when in the city, should make it a point to visit headquarters.

IV. All orders from headquarters should be read in full at the first regular meeting of the Post after their receipt, and then filed for reference—the date when received and read should always be noted upon each order.

V. The address of William B. Ellett, late Private Co. H, 11th Regt., Ills. Cav., is wanted by O. P. Henry, Maple Grove, Minnesota.

VI. The discharge papers of Casper Suebert, late Private Co. G, 1st Regt., Mich. Cav., and William Henry Heath, late Private Co. D, 2d Regt., Minn. Cav. are at these headquarters. Any comrade knowing the whereabouts of these comrades, or their families, will please notify them.

VII. The Department Countersign will be mailed with this order to the respective Post Commanders who will communicate it to all comrades in good standing.

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., April 6, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 2.

I. The Department Officers are doing all in their power to secure the National Encampment for St. Paul in 1895. We ask the support of every member of our Order, and would suggest that every Comrade write one or more letters to his friends in other Departments, presenting St. Paul's advantages and many attractions. Our chances are good; but let us not cease our efforts until success is certain. Much can be accomplished by personal work. Remember, Comrades, that the National Encampment in Minnesota in '95 would result in the greatest good to our entire Department.

II. Commanders of District Encampments will notify the Assistant Adjutant General of the place of their respective Encampments as early as practicable and correspond with him, arranging dates so that no two Encampments may be held at the same time. The Department Officers desire to visit all the District Encampments, and can only do so if dates are made so as not to conflict with each other.

III. To expedite the systematic visitation of Posts by the Department Officers, the State has been sub-divided into three Divisions, the Northern, Central and Southern.

The Northern Division will be under the supervision of the Junior Vice Department Commander, and will comprise the following Posts: Nos. 128, 187, 137, 58, 6, 127, 65, 30, 31, 157, 104, 33, 91, 106, 138, 62, 67, 90, 100, 102, 129, 151, 180, 103, 102, 113, 161, 147, 142, 141, 144, 173, 178, 145, 146, 185, 115, 177, 135.

The Central Division will be under the supervision of the Senior Vice Department Commander, and will comprise the following Posts: Nos. 4, 22, 50, 68, 72, 73, 119, 126, 163, 171, 20, 21, 148, 8, 120, 172, 57, 88, 76, 1, 69, 2, 110, 127, 6, 14, 164, 52, 112, 86, 169, 154, 24, 134, 40, 188, 140, 38, 36, 114, 99, 56, 82, 29, 17, 9, 136, 152, 125, 124, 108, 53, 59, 28, 41, 158, 105, 155, 47, 83, 123, 75, 89, 61, 160, 70, 35, 133, 92, 101.

The Southern Division will be under the supervision of the Department Commander, and will comprise the following Posts: Nos. 45, 189, 87, 170, 181, 186, 117, 107, 143, 150, 159, 121, III, 44, 167, 131, 32, 12, 182, 122, 3, 16, 84, 97, 118, 11, 23, 66, 130, 5, 98, 81, 132, 27, 26, 43, 74, 25, 19, 10, 54, 94, 18, 7, 39, 60, 149, 63, 64, 79, 34, 184, 46, 42, 139, 95, 80, 166, 96, 162, 93, 174, 183, 168, 49, 153, 116.

IV. It is hoped that every Post in the State may be visited by one of the Department Officers during the year. Posts will find that Camp Fires, at which the Comrades may relate their experiences of army life or present papers, describing and discussing battles and campaigns, interspersed with music and recitations, will greatly enhance the interest in Grand Army affairs. Where practicable, two or more Posts would find it profitable to unite in a joint Camp Fire. To these open meetings citizens, and especially old soldiers, not members of the Grand Army, should be invited and cordially welcomed. Visitations by Comrades from Post to Post, and especially to the smaller and weaker Posts, will be of great benefit. By such methods we may reasonably hope to arouse enthusiasm, increase our membership, and promote the efficiency of the Order.

V. A copy of the Grand Army Blue Book, containing the rules and regulations and the official decisions and opinions thereon (Revised Edition of 1893), should be in possession of every Post. Questions are referred to these Headquarters every week that have been passed upon over and over again, and all the decisions may be found in this book. It can be procured from E. N. Leavens, Asst. Quartermaster General, Faribault, Minn., at the cost of \$1.00.

VI. The Adjutant General of Ohio is preparing a register of all living ex-soldiers of that State, which will be of great importance to all ex-soldiers, their widows and orphans. All Ohio soldiers in this Department are therefore requested to immediately write to James C. Howe, Adjutant General, Columbus, Ohio, giving their company and regiment, with post office address. Also send the same information in regard to any other ex-soldiers from Ohio of whom they may know. Post Commanders are requested to have the enclosed circular read to the Post.

VII. The address of Franklin A. Remick, late private, Company H, 6th Regt., Minn. Vol. Inf'ty., is wanted by Thad. J. Woodworth, of Clearwater, Minn.

VIII. The application of Aaron A. Doty for membership has been rejected by Robson Post No. 5. Also the application of Taylor Catshall for membership was rejected by McIntyre Post No. 66.

IX. The discharge of George W. Mathews, late private, Company K, 46th Regt., Indiana Vet. Vol., is at these Headquarters.

X. The following additional appointments upon the staff of the Department Commander are announced:

COMMITTEE ON SOLDIERS' HOME.

Charles J. Stees.....	Post No. 21, St. Paul.
B. G. Merry	" 69, Stillwater.
C. G. Hunt	" 50, Minneapolis.
W. W. Ranney	" 66, Austin.
Geo. A. Whitney.....	" 102, Wadena.

SENIOR AIDE-DE-CAMP.

Edwin Dunn.....	Post No. 44, Eyota.
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AIDES-DE-CAMP.

Thomas Downs.....	Post No. 126, Minneapolis.
B. Stevens.....	" 47, Farmington.
F. E. Ford	" 28, Glencoe.
E. B. Wood	" 100, Long Prairie.
E. W. Henderson.....	" 151, Eagle Bend.
W. H. Page	" 22, Minneapolis.
J. D. Gillispie.....	" 99, Morris.
W. H. Wadsworth	" 63, Madelia.
Robert Tayler.....	" 32, Kasson.
Fred Wahl	" 163, Minneapolis.
E. A. Norton	" 162, Slayton.

AIDES-DE-CAMP.—CONTINUED.

H. C. Stivers.....	Post No.	30, Brainerd.
S. C. Lobdell	"	3, Spring Valley.
S. R. Orcutt	"	131, Dodge Centre.
J. H. Abbott	"	72, Minneapolis.
Geo. W. Grant.....	"	67, Detroit.
B. Kirst	"	189, Winona.
W. H. H. Taylor, Jr	"	1, Stillwater.
R. E. McElroy	"	8, St. Paul.
F. C. Mallory.....	"	20, St. Paul.
Charles V. Joubert.....	"	21, St. Paul.
Joseph F. Chafron	"	21, St. Paul.
John C. Miller	"	148, St. Paul.

XI. The sword of Capt. T. C. Metyard, U. S. A., is in possession of L. F. Dailey, Commercial Block, Salt Lake City. Any Comrade knowing of the whereabouts of Capt. Metyard or his family is requested to communicate with these Headquarters.

XII. Attention is called to the resolution passed at the recent session of the Department Encampment requesting Commanders of Posts to forward to the Minnesota Association Union Ex-Prisoners of War the names of Comrades who have at any time been prisoners in rebel hands. An earnest effort is being made to enlist all ex-prisoners with the view of extending the influence of the organization that the proper influence may be exerted to effect legislation by Congress for the relief of the sufferers of Andersonville, Libby, etc. Address such communications to Geo. W. Grant, Secretary, Minnesota Association Union Ex-Prisoners of War, Minneapolis, Minn.

XIII. The Department Commander desires to urge and encourage the formation of auxiliary societies to the Posts. Only those Posts which have a Woman's Relief Corps associated with them can appreciate the noble and unselfish work of this organization. They have proved themselves wherever located valuable adjuncts to the Posts. Their mission is to aid the soldier, not themselves. In the course of nature the time will soon come when the patriotic work now done by us will have to be delegated to others. Upon whom can the mantle of the fathers fall with better grace than upon the sons? If a Camp of Sons of Veterans is connected with a Post, its members have some assurance that when the last old soldier is at rest there will be some one left to decorate his grave and keep his memory green.

XIV. All Orders from these Headquarters should be read in full at the first regular meeting of the Post after their receipt and placed on file for reference.

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT.

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., April 30, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 3,

MEMORIAL DAY,

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

I. Wednesday, May 30th, will be the twenty-sixth anniversary of Memorial Day.

II. The attention of all Comrades is called to General Orders No. 6, from National Headquarters. The recommendations therein are fully indorsed.

III. Memorial Day is the sacred day of days to the old soldier, and every Post in this Department is urgently requested to appropriately observe the same. Let no Comrade's grave be forgotten, but lovingly and tenderly strew the sweet flowers of the spring-time upon the little mounds that mark the last resting places of our departed and heroic dead. These men died that the nation might live, and we cannot too often or too profusely decorate their graves. Comrades, while remembering our dead, let us not forget the living. I urge you, if possible, to a greater charity toward those suffering from disease or wounds, and toward all those who by reason of the infirmities of age are not able to support themselves and those dependent upon them. Others may, but we never can forget their sacrifices and brave deeds. May the God of battles ever guide and direct us.

In order to make the ceremonies the more impressive, invite the Sons and Daughters of Veterans, members of the Woman's Relief Corps, all patriotic, civic and military organizations, and last but not least, all teachers and pupils in our public and private

schools and colleges. Committees should be appointed to visit our mills, shops and factories requesting them to close for a part of the day at least, and the same request should be made of all merchants and all others engaged in trade. Now, if never before, this country needs to take time to impress the lessons of patriotism upon all. Could a more fitting time be found than an occasion like this when we desire to remember the heroic services of the nation's defenders? All flags should be displayed at half mast. All Posts should as far as possible attend divine services the Sunday preceding Decoration Day. Discountenance all games of sport and all kinds of profanation of the day, and let us all strive to make this Decoration Day one universally observed and one long to be remembered.

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., April 30, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4.

I. The following additional appointments as Aides-de-Camp on the staff of the Department Commander are hereby announced:

John Schaefer	Post No. 134, St. Cloud,	Color Sergeant.
Myron Shepard	"	1, Stillwater.
E. D. Hammer	"	3, Spring Valley.
J. Q. Annis	"	5, Albert Lea.
T. P. Baldwin	"	7, Marshall.
John Kohr	"	9, Montevideo.
H. R. Yolton	"	13, Duluth.
A. N. Hoff	"	16, Fillmore.
J. W. Mitchell	"	29, Appleton.
Tory Thorson	"	38, Glenwood.
Philip Plaisance	"	41, Hutchinson.
H. H. Kiehl	"	42, Fulda.
Albert Campbell	"	46, Adrian.
B. F. Goodwin	"	54, Winnebago City.

M. G. Yarnell.....	Post No. 68, Minneapolis.
T. P. Teas.....	" 70, Watertown.
P. H. Mayhew	" 73, Minneapolis.
James Lonergan.....	" 76, White Bear.
C. W. Apley.....	" 77, Minnesota Lake.
Frank E. Latham.....	" 86, Howard Lake.
S. C. McElhaney.....	" 87, St. Charles.
F. G. Johnson	" 92, Cannon Falls, P. O., White Rock.
S. B. Coe	" 93, Waterville.
O. F. Peck.....	" 98, Alden.
E. J. Johnson	" 114, Hancock, P. O., Kensington, Pope Co.
Chas. H. Mero.....	" 119, Minneapolis.
J. H. Stoffers	" 124, New London, P. O., Burbank.
M. D. Manning	" 125, Willmar.
A. M. Cox	" 128, Duluth.
C. F. Greening.....	" 130, Grand Meadows.
John A. Whitaker.....	" 133, Dassel, P. O., Cokato.
E. M. Harkins.....	" 135, Sherburne.
C. W. Sargent	" 139, Woodstock.
Michael Winter.....	" 140, Melrose.
W. H. Crowe.....	" 141, Osakis.
C. Briggs.....	" 142, Princeton, P. O., Freemont.
C. R. J. Kellam.....	" 149, Heron Lake.
Henry L. Pengilly	" 150, Mazeppa.
C. H. Hodg.....	" 161, Motley.
J. H. Burst.....	" 166, Beaver Creek.
A. C. Bailey	" 172, Long Lake.
C. H. Nixon	" 178, Hector.

The Comrades who have been selected as Aides-de-Camp will at once report in writing to the Department Commander, signifying their acceptance of the appointment.

The Comrades named for Aides-de-Camp have been selected because of their energy, zeal and unfaltering fidelity to the interests of our great organization, and are expected to show their appreciation of the confidence reposed in them by giving a full measure of service to the position.

II. The following are the dates of the several District Encampments which have been reported to these Headquarters:

I. The South Western Veterans and G. A. R. Associations, at Luverne, June 12, 13 and 14.

2. The First Regiment G. A. R. Veterans, at Dawson, June 13th, 14th and 15th.
3. Sons of Veterans, at Monticello, June 13th and 14th.
4. The Cannon Valley Veterans Association, at Owatonna, June 20th and 21st.
5. The Carver County Re-Union, at Chaska, June 22d and 23d.
6. North Western District Encampment, at Osakis, July 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th.

The other Associations which have not reported the place and time of holding their Encampments are requested to report to these Headquarters as soon as possible so that they may be reported in the next General Orders.

III. To correct error in General Orders No. 2, the following corrections are made: Post No. 13, which was omitted, should have been quoted as being in the First District. Posts No. 55, 165, 37, 48, 71, 109, 156 and 85 are in the Southern Division.

By error the name of Joseph F. Chapron was inserted in General Orders No. 2 as Chafron, which is hereby corrected.

IV. The address of Nathan Bates, late member of Co. I, 7th Regt., Minn. Vol. Inf., is wanted by M. A. Mayhew, No. 364 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., August 6, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 5.

I. The 28th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at Pittsburgh, Penn., September 10 to 15, 1894.

II. The grand parade and review will occur on Tuesday, September 11th. The Encampment will convene for the transaction of business on Wednesday, September 12th, at 10 a. m.

III. The Headquarters of the Department of Minnesota will be at the Hotel Schlosser, corner of Sixth St. and Penn Ave., where the Department Officers and Staff will welcome all Comrades and friends. The Hotel is centrally located, and is less than three blocks from the Opera House, where the Encampment will be held. The rates of the hotel are \$3.50 per day for each person.

IV. A special Headquarters G. A. R. train will leave the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Depot, Minneapolis, at 7:30 p. m., and the Union Depot, St. Paul, at 8:10 p. m., Saturday, September 8, 1894, via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway to Chicago, arriving there at 9:30 Sunday morning. Thence via the Baltimore & Ohio Railway, leaving Chicago at 3 p. m., Sunday, September 9, arriving at Pittsburgh the next morning, Monday, September 10, in time for breakfast. This train will carry the Department Commander and Staff. Comrades in Minneapolis, St. Paul and vicinity should arrange accordingly. Comrades living on the lines of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and St. Paul & Duluth Railways should arrange their leaving time in order to reach Minneapolis or St. Paul in time to connect with the Headquarters train. Comrades residing in the Southern part of the State can join the Headquarters train at Winona and La Crosse. Arrangements have been made whereby Comrades can secure the lowest obtainable rates via the above routes. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway has been selected as the G. A. R. route, both on account of its splendid service and on account of the very large number of Comrades residing along its lines in this Department. Headquarters of this Department in Chicago immediately on the arrival of the Headquarters train will be established at the Baltimore & Ohio Depot, corner 5th Avenue and Harrison St. This arrangement has been made so that Comrades living along the lines of other railroads in this State where it is more convenient or less expensive, can go direct to Chicago and join the Headquarters train there for Pittsburgh. The fare from Minneapolis to Pittsburgh and return will be \$21.50. The fare from all other points in the State can be ascertained from the local railroad agents. Arrangements have been made for free quarters in Pittsburgh, and all Comrades desiring the same should immediately communicate with the Assistant Adjutant General. The Department Commander is very anxious to have a large attendance at the National Encampment, and he earnestly hopes that every Past Department Commander, Delegate and Alternate Delegate will be present, as we must secure the National Encampment for St. Paul in 1895, and we can only hope to do so by having a large, enthusiastic and representative delegation at

Pittsburgh. All Comrades desiring sleeping car accommodations from Minneapolis and St. Paul to Pittsburgh and hotel quarters should immediately notify the Assistant Adjutant General.

V. Accompanying this General Order from these Headquarters, is General Order No. 8 from National Headquarters, giving full particulars in regard to the National Encampment.

VI. The following additional appointments as Aides-de-Camp on the staff of the Department Commander are hereby announced:

Geo. W. Swank.....	Post No.	2, Anoka.
Lot S. Palmer	"	4, Minneapolis.
Wm. D. Mitchell	"	4, Minneapolis.
H. S. Clyde.....	"	31, Little Falls.
J. B. Sherman	"	35, Litchfield.
W. J. Culp.....	"	49, Elysian.
G. C. Wedgewood	"	52, Monticello.
A. C. Poor'.....	"	56, Staples.
Geo. B. Halstead	"	57, Excelsior.
Geo. R. Lawrence.....	"	58, Rush City.
B. M. Chesley	"	62, Ada.
O. H. Moore.....	"	64, St. James.
Mathias Rau	"	78, Cordova.
Daniel Goodhue	"	83, Northfield.
H. E. Cooke.....	"	90, Crookston.
Geo. N. Wright.....	"	95, Pipestone.
G. W. Rockwell	"	97, Rushford.
D. C. Clarke.....	"	107, Plainview.
Henry H. Herring	"	108, Lake Crystal.
E. A. Campbell.....	"	114, Hancock, P. O. Winthrop.
Joseph Smith	"	116, Morton.
Fred Reed	"	134, St. Cloud.
Jacob Cook.....	"	136, Granite Falls.
J. H. Maxwell	"	152, Dawson.
Christian Krans	"	154, Montrose.
Frank S. Flint.....	"	157, Royalton.
F. D. Chapman.....	"	158, Chaska.
L. A. Meacham.....	"	165, Wells.
Geo. W. Shelly	"	169, Rockford.
O. E. Lawson.....	"	171, Minneapolis.
H. Julson	"	173, Fertile.
Geo. D. Knox	"	175, Stewartville.
F. O'Brien.....	"	177, Renville.
E. S. Evans	"	183, Le Seuer.

K. N. Olson Post No. 185, Ashby.
John Young " 186, Witoka.

The Comrades who have been selected as Aides-de-Camp will at once report in writing to the Department Commander, signifying their acceptance of the appointment.

The Comrades named for Aides-de-Camp have been selected because of their energy, zeal and unfaltering fidelity to the interests of our great organization, and are expected to show their appreciation of the confidence reposed in them by giving a full measure of service to the position.

VII. The attention of the Department Commander has frequently been called to the Record Booklet (Roll of our Dead), issued by Comrade S. B. Coe, Adjutant of Post No. 93, at Waterville, Minn., which is in use in many of our Posts, and he would recommend its use to the Comrades of this Department.

VIII. The Department Commander takes this opportunity to congratulate the Comrades of this Department upon the very general observance of Memorial Day. This year it was more observed and remembered than ever before. In this Department in all our large cities business was for the time being laid aside, and in valley and country alike all seemed to encourage the observance of our Sacred Day. Let us never forget to fully appreciate the esteem in which we are held by the citizens of Minnesota; and the Department Commander for you would cordially thank the people of this State for what they are doing and have done for us.

IX. The whereabouts or post office address of Benjamin or Frank Wylie and Eugene F. Ryan, both late members of the 7th U. S. Cavalry, is desired in a claim for a pension of a widow of one of their Comrades. Any person able to furnish the desired information will please forward the same to these Headquarters.

The address of Charles Babcock, late of Company E, 11th Maine Vols., is wanted by P. W. Babcock, Lewiston, Maine. Last heard from was reported as residing in Minneapolis in 1887.

The post office address or whereabouts of John Kundert and Rudolph Blum, both late of Company K, 9th Regt. Wis. Inf'y., is wanted by Comrade George O. Jenkins, Adjutant of Post No. 181, G. A. R., Freemont, Winona Co., Minn. Their testimony is needed in the claim of a pension for a Comrade of the Company of which they were members, and now a worthy Comrade of Post No. 181.

X. The following are the Officers, Past Officers, Delegates and Alternate Delegates who represent the Department of Minnesota in the National Encampment.

Department Commander, Sam R. Van Sant, Winona.
 S. V. Department Commander, A. H. Reed, Glencoe.
 J. V. Department Commander, C. W. McKay, Fergus Falls.
 Assistant Adjutant General, J. K. Mertz, Minneapolis.

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

John P. Rea Post No. 4, Minneapolis.

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS.

Henry G. Hicks (Old Organization)	Post No. 126,	Minneapolis.
Henry A. Castle	"	21, St. Paul.
Adam Marty	"	1, Stillwater.
John P. Rea	"	4, Minneapolis.
E. C. Babb	"	4, Minneapolis.
R. A. Becker	"	21, St. Paul.
William Thomas	"	19, Mankato.
L. L. Wheelock	"	81, Owatonna.
James H. Ege	"	4, Minneapolis.
Alphonso Barto	"	40, Sauk Centre.
James Compton	"	33, Fergus Falls.
C. D. Parker	"	21, St. Paul.
L. M. Lange	"	7, Marshall.
John Day Smith	"	119, Minneapolis.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Robert Stratton, at large	..... Post No.	4, Minneapolis.
J. H. Davidson,	"	" 21, St. Paul.

BY DISTRICTS.

1st. George B. Arnold	..... Post No.	32, Kasson.
2d. James H. Baker	"	19, Mankato.
3d. James Hunter	"	123, Faribault.
4th. John Espey	"	21, St. Paul.
5th. B. M. Hicks	"	119, Minneapolis.
6th. L. W. Collins	"	134, St. Cloud.
7th. M. S. Converse	"	67, Detroit.

ALTERNATES.

E. R. Perkins, at large	..... Post No.	57, Excelsior.
B. G. Merry,	"	" 69, Stillwater.

BY DISTRICTS.

1st. A. E. Christie Post No.	66, Austin.
2d. C. C. Goodnow	"	95, Pipestone.
3d. D. S. Hall	"	59, Stewart.

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4th. Samuel Bloomer | Post No. 1, Stillwater. |
| 5th. William Leitz..... | " 22, Minneapolis. |
| 6th, N. A. Gearhart..... | " 128, Duluth. |
| 7th. J. B. Ashelman..... | " 62, Ada. |

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., November 21, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 6.

I. The Twenty-eighth National Encampment at Pittsburgh, held September 10th to 15th is now a memory. To those who participated in its business and in its continuous round of festivities, provided by the loyal people of Pittsburgh, and its Twin City, Alleghany, over the river, the recollections of the Encampment will be lasting and pleasant. Pittsburgh is now as it was in the days of '61 to '65, the very heart, the fore front of loyalty and patriotism, and now, as in those dark days of the rebellion, its citizens were untiring in their ministrations to the comforts and pleasure of the visiting veterans. The Department Commander is very much gratified at the part taken in the parade and in the deliberations of the Encampment, by the Representatives and Comrades, and desires to return his thanks to each and every one of the Officers and Comrades present for the part they took, the fine appearance they made, and in upholding the honor of the Department of Minnesota. The ovations received along the line will long be remembered by the Comrades who took part in the parade.

II. Louisville, Kentucky, was selected by the Encampment as the city in which the Twenty-ninth National Encampment will be held in 1895.

III. The following amendment to the Rules and Regulations made by the Twenty-eighth National Encampment at Pittsburgh. So much of the amendment offered by the Department of Massachusetts to Chapter 5, Article 4, Section 4, referring to re-instatement of Comrades was adopted as follows:

"A Comrade may be re-instated in the Post from which he was dropped by making a written statement to that effect, and on receiving a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting, upon payment of one year's dues."

IV. The Department Commander again calls the attention of the Post Commanders and Comrades, to the number of Comrades on the suspended list. Make a great effort to increase your membership, as in unity and numbers there is strength and power irresistible. If you have worthy Comrades who are not able to pay their dues, remit them, and thus keep them in the Order that teaches Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty; act promptly, and exercise a spirit of fraternity.

V. The Rules and Regulations require an annual inspection of all Posts between September 1st and December 20th of each year, and in obedience to that requirement, an inspection of the Posts in this Department is hereby ordered.

VI. Below will be found a list of Assistant Inspectors appointed to inspect the Posts of the Department at the first regular meeting in December. They have been selected, as a rule, from the past and present Post Commanders, and with special reference to the close proximity to the Posts they are appointed to inspect. Blanks upon which Assistant Inspectors will make their reports will be forwarded to every Post Commander in the Department, who will upon the night or day of inspection, furnish the same to the Inspecting Officer appointed to inspect the Post. These blanks will furnish all necessary information and should be filled out by the Inspecting Officer and forwarded to Harrison White, the Department Inspector, at Beaver Creek, Minn., not later than January 1st, 1895. As the inspection is to be made without expense to the Department, it is hoped that Post Commanders will see that entertainment is provided for the Assistant Inspector.

Name of Assistant Inspector.	Post No.	To Inspect Post No.	Location.
Theodore Sander.....	8.....	1.....	Stillwater.
A. H. Fitch.....	2.....	2.....	Anoka.
R. C. Livingston.....	3.....	3.....	Spring Valley.
Albert Scheffer.....	21.....	4.....	Minneapolis.
J. Q. Annis.....	5.....	5.....	Albert Lea.
W. S. Dedon.....	6.....	6.....	Taylors Falls.
C. C. Whitney.....	7.....	7.....	Marshall.
Joe L. Brigham.....	8.....	8.....	St. Paul.
George Wright.....	9.....	9.....	Montevideo.
B. F. Goodwin.....	54.....	10.....	Blue Earth City.
A. E. Christie.....	66.....	11.....	Brownsdale.
Moses Emery.....	12.....	12.....	Caledonia.

Name of Assistant Inspector.	Post No.	To Inspect Post No.	Location.
Geo. N. LaVaque	128.....	13.....	Duluth.
Geo. A. Hills	2.....	14.....	Elk River.
H. B. Swartwood	15.....	15.....	Tracy.
Wm. Laird.....	84.....	16.....	Fillmore.
E. V. Dickey	29.....	17.....	Benson.
A. B. Allen	60.....	18.....	Fairmont.
E. M. Pope.....	19.....	19.....	Mankato.
John F. Perry.....	119.....	20.....	St. Paul.
Ell Torrance	126.....	21.....	St. Paul.
Mathias Kees	163.....	22.....	Minneapolis.
S. Johnson.....	66.....	23.....	Le Roy.
John Schaefer	134.....	24.....	Fairhaven.
G. W. Mead	19.....	25.....	Eagle Lake.
C. E. Graham	27.....	26.....	New Richland.
Z. M. Partridge.....	26.....	27.....	Waseca.
D. S. Hall	59.....	28.....	Glencoe.
John Kohr	9.....	29.....	Appleton.
John Reed	4.....	30.....	Brainerd.
F. S. Flint.....	157.....	31.....	Little Falls.
J. White.....	131.....	32.....	Kasson.
F. M. Mosher	138.....	33.....	Fergus Falls.
J. A. Town	34.....	34.....	Worthington.
A. F. Foster	35.....	35.....	Litchfield.
Ross Shaw	36.....	36.....	Villard.
E. J. Davis	19.....	37.....	St. Peter.
Geo. W. Knowles.....	38.....	38.....	Glenwood.
Z. Bailey	39.....	39.....	Lake Benton.
Fred Reed	134.....	40.....	Sauk Centre.
A. H. Reed.....	28.....	41.....	Hutchinson.
A. H. Fowler	162.....	42.....	Fulda.
Geo. R. Buckman.....	27.....	43.....	Janesville.
Robert Taylor.....	32.....	44.....	Rochester.
J. M. Sheardown.....	189.....	45.....	Winona.
Frank Glasgow	34.....	46.....	Adrian.
D. Goodhue	83.....	47.....	Farmington.
John Gieska	71.....	48.....	New Ulm.
H. Van Buren	93.....	49.....	Elysian.
H. A. Morse.....	8.....	50.....	Minneapolis.
W. H. Crowe	141.....	51.....	Alexandria.
Stephen Howard.....	112.....	52.....	Monticello.
A. Nixon	178.....	53.....	Bird Island.
B. F. Goodwin.....	54.....	54.....	Winnebago City.
A. McColley.....	54.....	55.....	Delevan.
C. Ditmore	113.....	56.....	Staples.

Name of Assistant Inspector.	Post No.	To Inspect Post No.	Location.
S. H. Dyer	57.....	57.....	Excelsior.
O. Wilcox	137.....	58.....	Rush City.
S. G. Updike	28.....	59.....	Stewart.
M. S. Barney	60.....	60.....	Jackson.
G. H. Thomas	161.....	61.....	Waconia.
B. F. Zaracher.....	90.....	62.....	Ada.
S. B. Estes	63.....	63.....	Madelia.
M. E. Mullin	64.....	64.....	St. James.
W. Potter	65.....	65.....	Aitken.
F. M. Banter	81.....	66.....	Austin.
D. L. Wellman	104.....	67.....	Detroit.
E. W. Mortimer	4.....	68.....	Minneapolis.
Samuel Bloomer.....	1.....	69.....	Stillwater.
R. McCullough.....	120.....	70.....	Watertown.
C. M. Herremen	151.....	71.....	Sleepy Eye.
Robert Wilson	22.....	72.....	Minneapolis.
C. H. Taylor.....	68.....	73.....	Minneapolis.
Milton Hanna	19.....	74.....	Mapleton.
R. H. Moore	117.....	75.....	Red Wing.
R. A. Becker	21.....	76.....	White Bear.
Alfred L. Taylor.....	165.....	77.....	Minnesota Lake.
Benjamin Kritta.....	174.....	78.....	Cordova.
Charles Morley.....	149.....	79.....	Windom.
Robert Scarf	95.....	80.....	Edgerton.
E. N. Leavens.....	123.....	81.....	Owatonna.
John McCollom.....	82.....	82.....	Ortonville.
J. M. D. Craft	47.....	83.....	Northfield.
Edwin Dunn	44.....	84.....	Chatfield.
A. L. Gale.....	85.....	85.....	Redwood Falls.
J. H. Morris	35.....	86.....	Howard Lake.
B. A. Man.....	45.....	87.....	St. Charles.
Geo. W. Savage	88.....	88.....	Osseo.
O. W. Orser	75.....	89.....	Hastings.
H. E. Cook	90.....	90.....	Crookston.
O. C. Chase	33.....	91.....	Pelican Rapids.
D. F. Kelly	83.....	92.....	Cannon Falls.
James Hunter	123.....	93.....	Waterville.
C. H. Richardson	7.....	94.....	Canby.
F. L. Plank.....	95.....	95.....	Pipestone.
James Marshall	166.....	96.....	Luverne.
Geo. Miller	182.....	97.....	Rushford.
W. P. Sergeant	5.....	98.....	Alden.
J. W. Edwards.....	17.....	99.....	Morris.
Giles Peak	151.....	100.....	Long Prairie.

Name of Assistant Inspector.	Post No.	To Inspect Post No.	Location.
C. B. Soule.....	106.....	101.....	Browns Valley.
C. E. Bullard.....	113.....	102.....	Wadena.
Lyman B. Everdell.....	176.....	103.....	Moorhead.
W. C. Roberts.....	67.....	104.....	Perham.
Andrew Kopp.....	155.....	105.....	Jordan.
George A. Whitney.....	102.....	106.....	Deer Creek.
S. C. McElaney.....	87.....	107.....	Plainview.
W. Jacoby.....	19.....	108.....	Lake Crystal.
Fred Gerboeth.....	71.....	109.....	Springfield.
George Withern.....	2.....	110.....	Linwood.
H. M. Schofield.....	121.....	111.....	Pine Island.
G. R. Wedgwood.....	52.....	112.....	Clearwater.
H. P. Ackerman.....	102.....	113.....	Verndale.
F. M. Thornton.....	17.....	114.....	Hancock.
J. D. Gillispie.....	99.....	115.....	Herman.
E. B. Hale.....	85.....	116.....	Morton.
Charles J. Stauff.....	143.....	117.....	Lake City.
H. S. Bassett.....	122.....	118.....	Lanesboro.
Henry A. Norton.....	126.....	119.....	Minneapolis.
H. C. Russell.....	172.....	120.....	Maple Plain.
Fletcher Haglan.....	111.....	121.....	Zumbrota.
T. O. Kilbourn.....	3.....	122.....	Preston.
C. B. Wilkinson.....	81.....	123.....	Faribault.
A. H. Sperry.....	125.....	124.....	New London.
C. L. Angell.....	35.....	125.....	Willmar.
J. H. Davidson.....	21.....	126.....	Minneapolis.
Geo. W. Lawrence.....	58.....	127.....	North Branch.
Geo. H. Holden.....	13.....	128.....	Duluth.
D. Philes.....	40.....	129.....	Grey Eagle.
W. W. Ranney.....	66.....	130.....	Grand Meadows.
J. C. Barcard.....	81.....	131.....	Dodge Centre.
T. W. Hanks.....	81.....	132.....	Medford.
V. H. Harris.....	35.....	133.....	Dassell.
W. H. Helsper.....	140.....	134.....	St. Cloud.
W. V. King.....	60.....	135.....	Sherburne.
R. R. Hotchkiss.....	136.....	136.....	Granite Falls.
Jacob Christenson.....	127.....	137.....	Pine City.
W. N. Chapman.....	33.....	138.....	Battle Lake.
A. H. Fowler.....	162.....	139.....	Woodstock.
D. A. Perkins.....	134.....	140.....	Melrose.
W. E. Chidester.....	51.....	141.....	Osakis.
W. H. Houlton.....	14.....	142.....	Princeton.
M. M. Ingraham.....	117.....	143.....	Wabasha.
J. O. Milne.....	128.....	144.....	Duluth.

Name of Assistant Inspector.	Post No.	To Inspect Post No.	Location.
Geo. N. Lamphere	103	145	Barnesville,
E. S. Evans	183	146	Henderson.
A. E. Dickinson	147	147	Park Rapids.
B. Converse	20	148	St. Paul.
J. F. French	79	149	Heron Lake.
Frederick Strobel	111	150	Mazepa.
E. B. Wood	100	151	Eagle Bend.
Myron F. Barber	9	152	Dawson.
J. R. Parchal ^l	123	153	Morriston.
John Painter	86	154	Montrose.
Julius Schaller	158	155	Shakopee.
J. L. Craig	15	156	Lamberton.
J. H. Martin	31	157	Royalton.
John Eller	155	158	Chaska.
W. L. Lewark	143	159	Jarretts.
Joseph Ess	158	160	Young America.
John C. Congdon	30	161	Motley.
Fred Bloom	139	162	Slayton.
Geo. W. Morey	22	163	Minneapolis.
J. R. Cunningham	169	164	Buffalo.
A. W. Apley	77	165	Wells.
Philo Hawes	96	166	Beaver Creek.
C. C. Robinson	150	167	West Concord.
Peter Brown	105	168	Belle Plaine.
George Davis	164	169	Rockford.
David E. Vance	45	160	Lakota.
Fred Hartson	4	171	Minneapolis.
J. K. Mertz	4	172	Long Lake.
J. V. Jennings	90	173	Fertile.
A. P. Merrill	93	174	Montgomery.
C. E. Huntly	3	175	Stewartville.
C. W. McKay	33	176	Breckenridge.
J. P. Gibbs	53	177	Renville.
W. H. Frederick	53	178	Hector.
Newell Chapin	113	179	Hewitt.
Lewis Fontaine	90	180	Fosston.
Frank M. Billings	45	181	Freemont.
J. H. Moore	97	182	Money Creek.
A. L. Sackett	37	183	Le Sueur.
C. H. Farnsworth	5	184	Glenville.
G. J. Strang	51	185	Ashby.
H. L. Church	189	186	Witoka.
E. E. Stewart	12	187	Brownsville.
M. Battlebury	124	188	Paynesville.
I. Sheppard	45	189	Winona.

AIDES DE CAMP.

VII. Aides are appointed for the purpose of *being Aides* to the Department Commander, it is earnestly desired that they keep this in mind and in every way possible assist him in the work of the Department. Ask the officers of Posts, or any member of any Post, when opportunity permits, if their semi-annual returns and all other reports have been forwarded to the Department Headquarters; ask them if there are not still a few Veterans in their respective neighborhoods, who have not yet been mustered into the Grand Army of the Republic, and why this is so. They should attend Post meetings wherever they may be and have the opportunity, and feel that they have a responsibility in the service of the Department and this administration.

VIII. The time approaches when new officers for the Posts are to be elected, you cannot be too careful in this matter. Upon these officers depend largely the welfare and prosperity of the Order. See that you choose wisely. With this General Order will be sent the blanks for your semi-annual reports and election of officers. Post Commanders will have the blank certificates of election filled out immediately after election in December. Also the credentials of Representatives to the next annual Department Encampment, one copy to be forwarded to these Headquarters and the other copy retained and brought to the Department Encampment by the Post Commander-elect and installed and presented to the Committee on Credentials. The Adjutant's and Quartermaster's blanks to be filled and forwarded with the per capita tax (twenty cents for each member in good standing) immediately after the last meeting in December.

IX. The attention of Post Commanders and Comrades is called to the address from the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Veterans. The Commander heartily indorses this matter, and desires that the Posts throughout the Department will aid and encourage the establishing of Camps. Comrades, these are our sons and our Comrades' sons; to them at no distant day will be entrusted, to a large degree, all that we fought to maintain and now hold sacred. Let us in our declining years assist them to build up their Order, so that when we have answered the "Roll Call," they may carry forward the grand principles of loyalty and patriotism.

By Order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., November 21, 1894.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 7.

The Department Commander announces with sorrow
the death of

Comrade Charles D. Parker,

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,

who died at his home, St. Anthony Park, September 29th,
ultimo, and was buried at Columbus, Ohio.

Comrade Parker enlisted August 18th, 1862, as Corporal
in Company D, 113th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Was dis-
charged in July, 1865.

Was mustered into Acker Post No. 21, at St. Paul, June
11th, 1885. Was elected Post Commander in 1888. Depart-
ment Commander in 1891.

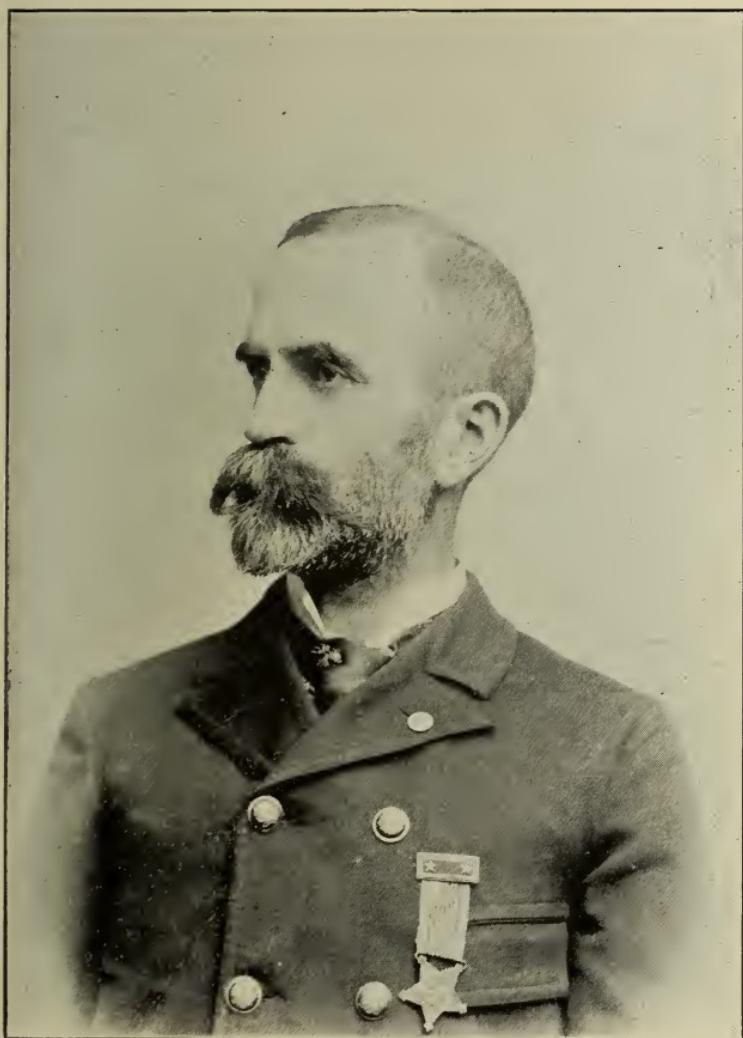
He was a true and loyal Comrade and beloved by all
who knew him.

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Asst. Adj't. Gen'l.



CHAS. D. PARKER,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER 1891.
Died September 29, 1894.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., February 1, 1895.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 8.

I. The Fifteenth Annual Encampment of this Department will be held in Ford's Music Hall, corner 6th and St. Peter Streets, St. Paul, on Wednesday and Thursday, February 27th and 28th. The Encampment will be called to order at ten o'clock on Wednesday morning, February 27th.

Department headquarters will be at Windsor Hotel during the Encampment.

II. The Council of Administration will convene at the Windsor Hotel in St. Paul, at 10 o'clock, Tuesday morning, February 26th.

III. All railroads within the State have granted a reduced rate of one and one-third fare for the round trip for all comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, members of the Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R. attending the Encampment and State Convention. This reduced rate is granted only upon the following conditions, *which must be strictly complied with*: Persons attending these meetings must purchase a *a full fare ticket* to St. Paul at the local ticket office, and obtain from the agent from whom this full fare ticket is purchased, *his certificate*, that full fare has been paid. Immediately after the opening of the Encampment these certificates should be presented to the Assistant Quartermaster General E. N. Leavens, for his endorsement showing that the holder has been in attendance either at the Encampment or Convention, which certificate, thus endorsed, must be presented to Mr. C. E. Robb, ticket agent of the Chicago Great Western Railway, at 364 Robert street, corner Fifth street, in St. Paul, the joint agent of the roads belonging to the Western Passenger Associations and of the local ticket agents of the other roads in St. Paul. Certificates will not be honored for return tickets at reduced rates unless presented within *two days* after the date of adjournment of the encampment, nor will certificates be honored in cases where going tickets were purchased more than *three days* prior to the commencement of the encampment, nor after the date announced as closing date thereof.

Commander-in-Chief Thomas G. Lawler, with some of his staff, will be present at the Encampment on Thursday, February 28th.

Post commanders are requested to impart the information contained in the above paragraphs to the officers of the local Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R.

IV. The local Committee of Posts of St. Paul report the following hotel rates for comrades attending the encampment, and for members of the Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R. in attendance at their convention:

Ryan Hotel, \$3.00 to \$6.00 per day.
Merchants " 2.00 to 3.50 " "
Windsor " 2.00 to 5.00 " "
Metropolitan" 2.00 to 3.50 " "
Astoria Hotel (European plan) 75c to \$2.50 per day for lodging only.
First class boarding houses \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day.

V. The following named comrades are hereby appointed as Committee on Credentials and will report to the Assistant Adjutant General at the Windsor Hotel, in St. Paul, at 2 o'clock, Tuesday, February 26th:

Thomas Downs, Post No. 126, Minneapolis.
Blinn Converse, " " 20, St. Paul.
R. A. Becker, " " 21, St. Paul.
John W. Gilger, " " 119, Minneapolis.

VI. Post commanders who have not forwarded to the Assistant Adjutant General a copy of credentials of delegates and alternates will do so immediately, thus enabling him to have a correct roll of the encampment at the time of its convening. All Posts which have not forwarded their reports for the second term, with the per capita tax, before the 20th of February, will be *delinquent* and will, therefore, according to the Rules and Regulations, have *no* representation in the encampment.

VII. The assistant inspectors who have not already done so, should immediately forward their reports to the Department Inspector Harrison White, Beaver Creek.

VIII. A Camp Fire will be held during the encampment. The time and place will be announced on the morning of the convening of the encampment, Wednesday, February 27th. Committee of Arrangements, Comrades J. L. Mahan, Joe L. Brigham, R. A. Becker, J. J. McCarty and A. S. Bates.

IX. Comrade W. L. McIntire, Post No. 8, is hereby detailed as officer of the day, and Comrade E. R. Nafie, Post No. 20, as officer of the guard to serve during the encampment. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

X. Post Quartermasters should order their supplies on or before February 20th, so that the Assistant Quartermaster General may close his accounts for the year.

XI. The twenty-second of February, Washington's birthday, is recognized by the Grand Army of the Republic, as a holiday. It is recommended that the day be observed by the Posts of this Department in a suitable form. Meetings should be held, with addresses upon the life and character of Washington, and such other exercises participated in by comrades and the young people as will keep alive in the hearts of all a sense of gratitude and veneration for him who was "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

XII. The attention of the Post Commanders is called to paragraph 1, General Order No. 5, National Headquarters, with reference to the number of *insane* soldiers and sailors confined in the county alms houses and state institutions within their respective counties. In order that the Commander-in-Chief may obtain a complete report from this Department commanders of Posts are requested to make the proper inquiry and forward the necessary information to these Headquarters. When more than one Post is located at a county seat the Post commanders will please work together. This information is desired by the Commander-in-Chief, and it is believed that a knowledge of it will lead to an interest in the care of these unfortunate comrades that does not now exist.

XIII. The National Countersign has been issued to the Post commanders who will transmit the same to all comrades in good standing.

XIV. The following named comrades have been appointed as Aides de Camp, on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, from this department:

Blinn Converse,	Post No.	20, St. Paul.
Victor Gillrup,	" "	5, Albert Lea.
Adolph Lemke,	" "	163, Minneapolis.
W. C. Roberts,	" "	67, Detroit.
N. U. Beden,	" "	4, Minneapolis.
Louis Fountaine,	" "	90, Crookston.
H. A. Norton,	" "	126, Minneapolis.
James C. Hawes,	" "	75, Red Wing.
C. A. Norton,	" "	162, Slayton.
Thomas E. Bishop,	" "	126, Minneapolis.
Charles J. Stauff,	" "	143, Wabasha.
C. E. Rice,	" "	52, Monticello.

XV. The addresses of O. P. Sleeper and Royal O. Husted, late members of the 10th Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, and Nelson Hart, late of the 9th Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, are

wanted by Samuel Chilson, late of Company F, 9th Regiment, Minnesota Infantry, residing at Lincoln, Neb., Post Office Box 950.

Robert Grater, an ex-soldier, who has been soliciting aid from comrades in Minneapolis and St. Paul, and who represented himself to James Shields Post No. 145, Department of Wisconsin, as a member of Acker Post No. 21, St. Paul, and received aid on account of said representations is a fraud. Look out for him.

XVI. Members of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Administration met in Louisville, Kentucky, December 18, 1894. All the details for the 29th National Encampment were completed, and in a thoroughly satisfactory manner to the committee. The dates arranged for holding the National Encampment were September 11th, 12th and 13th, 1895.

Further details of arrangements for the 29th National Encampment will be issued as they mature.

XVII. The Department Commander desires to see this, the Fifteenth Annual Department Encampment one of the largest in the history of the Department.

XVIII. The Commander-in-Chief is very anxious to assist by every means in his power the committee in charge of the investigation of Phil Kearney Post, of Richmond, Virginia, and with this object in view desires that every Post of the Department of Minnesota report to Comrade John C. Linehan, Chairman of Investigating Committee, at Concord, New Hampshire, any contributions that may have been sent to that Post, to what officer sent and by whom receipted for. By order of

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

J. K. MERTZ,

Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA,
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., February 28, 1895.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 9.

I. Comrade Ell Torrance having been elected Department Commander for the ensuing year, I hereby sever my official connection with the Department. I am sure that you will give to him the same hearty support that you ever gave to me.

II. I desire at this time to most cordially thank my late associates in the Department offices and my entire staff for their zeal in our cause, and I would also thank the Council of Administration for the zealous and business-like management of all matters pertaining to the finances of the order.

III. The official and personal staff are hereby discharged from further duty.

IV. To the Comrades : In bidding you adieu as your Department Commander, I desire to say that my cup of bliss is full and running over. You have made me, if possible, a better Grand Army man, and I pledge you, for all time to come, that my zeal will not abate, but that as long as a comrade lives I will be all to him that the word implies. Until we all "sleep the sleep that knows no waking" let us stand together as one man and march hand in hand down the hill that leads to the great beyond, and may the God of battles be our guide and protector until we all camp on the other shore.

Yours in F., C. & L.,

SAM R. VAN SANT.

ROLL

— OF THE —

Department Encampment.

1895.

[Those marked with an asterisk (*) were present at the Encampment.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

- *Sam R. Van Sant, Department Commander, Post 45, Winona.
- *A. H. Reed, Senior Vice Dept. Commander, Post 28, Glencoe.
- *C. W. McKay, Junior Vice Dept. Com'd'r, Post 33, Fergus Falls.
- *H. G. Bilbie, Department Chaplain, Post , Owatonna.
- *J. M. Tucker, Medical Director, Post 89, Hastings.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

- *Thomas Montgomery, Post 37, St. Peter.
- *R. C. Livingston, Post 3, Spring Valley.
- *J. M. D. Craft, Post 47, Farmington.
- *Perry Starkweather, Post 126, Minneapolis.
- *L. W. Collins, Post 134, St. Cloud.

PERSONAL STAFF.

- *J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant General, Post 4, Minneapolis.
- *E. N. Leavens, Asst. Quartermaster General, Post 123, Faribault.
- *Ell Torrance, Judge Advocate, Post 126, Minneapolis.
- *Harrison White, Department Inspector, Post 166, Beaver Creek.
- *G. S. Ives, Chief Mustering Officer, Post 37, St. Peter.

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS.

- H. G. Hicks, Post 126, Minneapolis.
 *H. A. Castle, Post 21, St. Paul.
 *Adam Marty, Post 1, Stillwater.
 John P. Rea, Post 4, Minneapolis.
 E. C. Babb, Post 4, Minneapolis.
 *R. A. Becker, Post 21, St. Paul.
 William Thomas, Post 19, Mankato.
 *L. L. Wheelock, Post 81, Owatonna.
 *James H. Ege, Post 4, Minneapolis.
 *Alphonso Barto, Post 40, Sauk Centre.
 *James Compton, Post 33, Fergus Falls.
 C. D. Parker, Post 21, St. Paul. Died Sept. 29, '94.
 *L. M. Lange, Post 7, Marshall.
 John Day Smith, Post 119, Minneapolis.
-

REPRESENTATIVES.

MULLER POST No. 1, STILLWATER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| F. E. Joy, | *Adam Marty, |
| W. H. H. Taylor, | Myron Shepherd, |
| Harlow McIntyre. | *Samuel Bloomer. |
- *L. B. Castle, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Frank Geran,
 Jas. Darling.

Alternates.

James G. Foley,
 Eben Foster.

J. S. CADY POST No. 2, ANOKA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| *A. H. Fitch, | *John Hunter, |
| Geo. Wethern. | *John N. Henry. |
- Geo. A. Hills.

L. R. Storms, Post Commander.

Representatives.

James H. Cook,
 Orrin Snow,
 E. S. Page,
 *M. F. Taylor.

Alternates.

Wm. M. Stanchfield,
 Charles Noggle,
 James Hyatt,
 W. A. Gillis.



HENRY A. CASTLE,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER 1872-73-74.

BURDICK POST No. 3, SPRING VALLEY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Asa R. Burleson,	George C. Weed,
*Charles W. Ackley,	*C. G. Edwards,
*R. L. Moore,	*T. O. Kilbourne,

*R. C. Livingston.

E. D. Hammer, Post Commander.

Representatives.

L. H. Prosser,
Henry Ulrig.

Alternates.

J. C. Baliman,
*L. M. Sturdevant.

GEO. N. MORGAN POST No. 4, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John P. Rea,	E. C. Babb,
*James H. Ege,	*W. P. Roberts,
*Washington Pierce,	*L. W. Pruss,
*E. W. Mortimer,	*J. A. Fillmore,
*Lewis Maish,	*J. H. Hasty,
*E. C. Allen,	*F. C. Hartson,
*Robert Stratton.	*Thomas McMillan.

*P. G. Woodward, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Wm. Ray,
*C. T. Trowbridge,
*Frank J. Mead,
*Dr. H. W. Brazie,
*J. S. Clark,
*C. C. Horton,
*N. U. Beden.

Alternates.

C. R. Fix,
C. D. Pillsbury,
S. H. Wright,
J. H. Bailey,
G. C. Whitcomb,
J. A. Fitchette,
J. C. Towers.

ROBSON POST No. 5, ALBERT LEA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

A. W. White,	A. McNeil,
J. Q. Annis,	Dr. B. Hibbs,
F. B. Fobes.	*V. Gillrup.

*S. N. Payne, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*C. H. Farnsworth,
*A. W. White,
C. B. Keller.

Alternates.

J. Frost,
M. M. Luce,
D. Calvin.

SULLY POST No. 10, BLUE EARTH CITY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. Craig,	L. N. Nichols,
R. W. Teeter,	G. E. Francisco,
F. Jennings.	*S. Clark.

*S. Clark, Post Commander.

Representative.

Alternate.

*H. H. Hardings.

F. Jennings.

HENRY ROGERS POST No. 11, BROWNSDALE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Albert Swift,	N. N. Palmeter,
Charles Gage.	A. J. Hunt.

Albert Swift, Post Commander.

Representative.

Alternate.

*Alfred Lounsbury.

M. B. Johnson.

BILLY MATTISON POST No. 12, CALEDONIA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*W. H. Harries,	A. H. Belding,
Eugene Marshall,	A. J. Flynn;
E. E. Stewart.	Moses Emery.

T. R. Stewart, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Alternates.

*Moses Emery,
Hudson Wheaton.

E. Marshall,
A. J. Flynn.

WILLIS A. GORMAN POST No. 13, DULUTH.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. J. Crossett,	Stanley W. Higgins,
*George H. Holden,	John E. Fossett,
E. S. Dodd.	

*Volney S. Wilkinson, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Alternates.

S. C. Boyce,
*Leslie C. Johnson,
*Wm. F. Davey.

Wm. H. Stultz,
L. W. Palmer,
Wm. H. Block.

H. C. ROGERS POST No. 14, ELK RIVER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. H. Houlton,	E. H. Davis,
A. G. Snow,	M. E. Spencer,
H. J. Heebner,	D. R. Houlton,
	W. H. Evans.

L. G. Davis, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Luther McNeil.	A. Bryant.

JOE HOOKER POST No 15, TRACY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

M. D. Gibbs,	H. B. Swartwood,
A. T. Downing,	J. M. Wardwell,
John Craig.	N. Beach.

H. B. Swartwood, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*J. B. Waugh,	Wm. Mesler,
*Ole Rialson.	Geo. P. Kelly.

BAKER POST No. 16, FILLMORE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*A. N. Hoff,	W. J. Stewart,	Wm. F. Stockdill.
Peter Crow, Post Commander.		

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*A. N. Hoff.	W. J. Stewart.

McPHERSON POST No. 17, BENSON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. S. Eaton,	M. J. Ronan,
J. N. Edwards.	Frank M. Thornton.

J. N. Edwards, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*C. M. Coffin,	John Ledwidge,
John Sheridan.	*James Neal.

PHIL KEARNEY POST No. 18, FAIRMONT.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Edward F. Wade,	Henry H. Bonney,
Augustus A. Taylor,	Frank S. Livermore,
Eben B. Grant,	Gad Kendall,
*Charles H. Bullard.	H. M. Blaisdell.

Eben B. Grant, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Charles H. Bullard,	W. A. McDonald,
*Allison Fancher.	Geo. Swearinger.

Alternates.

ALEX. WILKIN POST No. 19, MANKATO.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Wm. Thomas,	F. Wilkin,
E. M. Pope,	S. W. Burgess,
G. W. Mead,	Wm. Jacoby,
E. J. Davis,	Milton Hanna,

W. G. Briggs.

T. H. Andrews, Post Commander.

Representatives.

W. N. Plymat,	*A. D. Crane,
*J. G. Graham,	J. A. Masters,
*J. H. Baker,	D. W. Selleck,
E. R. Kennedy.	Henry Tibbits.

Alternates.

GEN. ORD POST No. 20, ST. PAUL.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*F. C. Mallory,	*Charles T. Hallowell,
*E. R. Nafie.	*Blinn Converse.

A. S. Bates, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*J. C. Donahower,	L. N. Bryant,
*Wm. Minser.	Wm. V. Gardner.

Alternates.

ACKER POST No. 21, ST. PAUL.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*H. A. Castle,	*R. V. Pratt,
*Edw. Simonton,	*W. J. Sleppy,
*W. W. Braden,	*R. A. Becker,
J. H. Drake,	*J. B. Chaney,
Z. C. Bahner,	*I. H. B. Beebe,
T. S. White,	*Samuel Arbuckle,
W. C. Wilson,	*Charles J. Stees,
*J. J. McCarty,	*J. W. Makinson,

E. H. C. Taylor.

ACKER POST No. 21, ST. PAUL—Continued.

*J. H. Davidson, Post Commander.

Representatives.

- *Albert Scheffer,
- *Charles Chapel,
- *W. B. Summers,
- *D. H. Crego,
- *J. L. Mahar,
- *John Espey.

Alternates.

- Jerome Titlow,
- John Cramsie,
- E. S. Lightbourn,
- M. K. Williams,
- G. R. Lewis,
- Frank Scherfenberg.

DUDLEY P. CHASE POST No. 22, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| *Geo. W. Coburn, | *Z. C. Colburn, |
| *Henry E. Blaisdell, | *William Leitz, |
| *Herman Vogt, | *Robert Wilson, |
| *W. P. Chase. | *Charles O. Pierce. |

*Geo. W. Morey, Post Commander.

Representatives.

- *Edward C. Detuncq,
- *W. H. Harrington,
- *D. W. Getchell,
- *M. Ulmer.

Alternates.

- Israel W. Cone,
- J. M. Davis,
- J. W. Chase,
- Patrick Carney.

JAMES GEORGE POST No. 23, LEROY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| D. Bosworth, | C. A. Roy, |
| E. A. Whitcomb, | W. W. Sweet, |
| *F. C. Mason. | J. N. Darrow. |

C. A. Roy, Post Commander.

Representatives.

- W. E. Haskins,
- *F. C. Mason.

Alternates.

- *C. P. Clayton,
- W. M. Walker.

J. L. BUZZELL POST NO. 24, FAIRHAVEN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| J. L. Buzzell, | F. M. Tietjen, |
| S. A. Gordon, | J. H. Bliler, |
| C. E. Kimble. | *S. C. Kemp. |

*S. C. Kemp, Post Commander.

Representative.

- *S. C. Kemp.

Alternate.

- *L. H. Webster.

W. C. DURKEE POST No. 25, EAGLE LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. Cummings,	I. B. Reynolds,
A. L. Cummings,	A. C. Smith,
Charles Bennett,	J. Dane,
	E. J. Russell.

J. B. Wagner, Post Commander.

Representative.

A. C. Smith.

Alternate.

(None reported.)

LINCOLN POST No. 26, NEW RICHLAND.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Z. M. Partridge,	O. H. Sutliff,
August Miller.	J. W. Pierce.

Z. M. Partridge, Post Commander.

Representative.

Z. M. Partridge.

Alternate.

Christopher Wagner.

LEWIS MCKUNE POST No. 27, WASECA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Wm. C. Young,	R. Miller,
E. Helms,	Geo. A. Smith,
C. C. Comee,	*Henry Reynolds,
	Geo. R. Buckman.

Geo. R. Buckman, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Harry Reed,
Chas. C. Baker.

Alternates.

E. M. Atwood,
*J. A. Shrunk.

ROBERT L. McCOOK POST No. 28, GLENCOE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

R. S. Miles,	*Wm. Churchill,
Mathias Thoeny,	J. Buska,
*A. H. Reed,	B. F. Allen,
	*F. E. Ford.

S. E. Martin, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*J. W. Williamson,
J. Byrns.

Alternates.

S. G. Updike,
Com. Fadden.

LEVI WHITNEY POST No. 29, APPLETON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. H. Sanders,	C. F. Ireland,
J. Simmons,	F. P. Twitchell,
J. H. Olney,	H. C. Maxwell,
J. T. Wilkinson,	P. M. Scott,
E. V. Dickey.	A. McMillan.

A. G. Bullock, Post Commander.

Representatives.

A. McMillan,	C. F. Ireland,
*Hugh Watson,	E. V. Dickey,
P. M. Scott.	H. C. Maxwell.

Alternates.

C. F. Ireland,
E. V. Dickey,
H. C. Maxwell.

PAP THOMAS POST No. 30, BRAINERD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. W. Martin.	J. C. Congdon.
J. C. Congdon, Post Commander.	

Representative.

*Anthony Nolan.

Alternate.

D. S. Robinson.

WORKMAN POST No. 31, LITTLE FALLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

F. H. Lafond,	J. C. Burrell,
*H. S. Clyde,	J. H. Martin,
Milo Porter.	

J. W. Manbeck, Post Commander.

Representative.

*H. S. Clyde.

Alternate.

F. H. Lafond.

BURNSIDE POST No. 32, KASSON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Geo. B. Arnold,	E. E. Fairchild,
Robert Taylor,	*J. M. Clement,
*H. S. Works.	*A. A. Johnson.

H. P. Ballard, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Wm. Mastenbrook,
*Joel Tucker.

Alternates.

Joseph Hewett,
N. H. Crosby.

STANTON POST No. 33, FERGUS FALLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

O. C. Chase,	J. R. Langley,
W. C. Lincoln,	E. Shaver,
W. A. Chapman,	G. H. Holden,
F. J. Titus,	*C. W. McKay,
G. A. Burbank.	P. Winsor.

W. G. Hunt, Post Commander.

*Representatives.*Wm. Hoefling,
*E. D. Gray.*Alternates.*Amund Nelson,
*J. A. McConkey.

STODDARD POST No. 34, WORTHINGTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. A. Town,	L. B. Bennett,	Frank Glasgow.
Frank Glasgow, Post Commander.		

*Representatives.**H. F. Hovey,
*Frank Stevens,
J. B. Green.*Alternates.*R. S. Hurd,
Geo. W. Brant,
Wilson Ager.

FRANK DAGGETT POST No. 35, LITCHFIELD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*V. H. Harris,	N. C. Martin,
J. M. Howard,	F. V. De Coster,
*A. T. Koerner,	G. N. Chapman,
C. L. Angell,	*O. C. Bissell,
*F. E. Bissell.	

*O. H. Campbell, Post Commander.

*Representatives.*John Knight,
James H. Morris,
*A. F. Foster,
J. Crosby,
N. Eberts.*Alternates.*E. M. Eastman,
J. H. Bacon,
*Wm. Christoph,
John P. Johnson,
Arthur Wheeler.

J. G. WHITTEMORE POST No. 36, VILLARD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

James E. Stalker,	Peter Hoffman,
Peter Pennie,	Samuel B. Moon,
L. B. Cantleberry.	

James Waters, Post Commander.

Representative.

*H. A. Perkins.

Alternate.

M. L. Webb.

A. K. SKARO POST No. 37, ST. PETER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Thomas Montgomery, *G. S. Ives, A. L. Sackett.

*G. S. Ives, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Corlett Hill,
William Moses,
N. M. Baker.

Alternates.

*Thomas Moses,
Andrew Anderson,
K. E. Holtcher.

JAMES CANFIELD POST No. 38, GLENWOOD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Tory Thorson,
*V. E. Strong.

Geo. Knowles,
John Jeffers.

Andrew Torgeson, Post Commander.

Representatives.

W. D. Brainard,
John Jeffers.

Alternates.

*Jos. Rue,
*V. E. Strong.

OLD ABE POST No. 39, LAKE BENTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

D. McArthur,
Z. Baily,

A. C. Mathews,
J. B. Davidson,

J. D. G. Whipple.

Andrew Strong, Post Commander.

Representative.

J. B. Davidson.

Alternate.

A. C. Mathews.

B. R. PALMER POST No. 40, SAUK CENTRE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*A. G. Jaques,
Josiah Cooper,
*A. Barto,
David Cleveland,

Wm. Pangburn,
Geo. Loomer,
C. J. Craig,
D. Philes,

Sandford Smith.

Geo. E. Davis, Post Commander.

Representative.

James White.

Alternate.

Geo. Loomer.

F. M. HARRINGTON POST No. 41, HUTCHINSON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. J. Ives,
Wm. A. Robbins.

D. S. Todd,
W. C. Allen.

Philip Plaisance, Post Commander.

Representative.

Philip Plaisance.

Alternate.

Kee Wakefield.

ZACH TAYLOR POST No. 42, FULDA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*W. M. Davis,
L. L. Renolt,
J. S. Swan.

B. W. Woolstencroft,
Clinton Wilson,
H. H. Kiehl.

H. H. Kiehl, Post Commander.

Representative.

*C. C. Christman.

Alternate.

A. A. Debon.

M. L. DEVERAUX POST No. 43, JANEVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. W. Baker,
J. V. Kee,

*D. J. Dodge,
C. Heath,

James Pearson.

Z. A. Banker, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Z. A. Banker,
*D. J. Dodge.

Alternates.

Ed. Paddock,
C. Heath.

CUSTER POST No. 44, ROCHESTER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

G. Hargesheimer,
H. M. Richardson,
C. H. Burbank,

*D. A. Morrison,
*E. Dunn,
J. H. Wagoner,

C. A. Callaghan.

H. R. Smith, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*J. C. Preston,
*Robt. Pett,
*R. J. Palmer.

Alternates.

Jos. Patchen,
C. E. Thurber,
A. Mulholand.

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JOHN BALL POST No. 45, WINONA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*David E. Vance,	*B. A. Mann,
J. B. Quiggle,	*F. M. Billings,
S. B. Sheardown,	C. O. White,
	*S. R. Van Sant.
	C. O. White, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*W. I. Lamson,
 *Otis Abell,
 A. B. Clark,
 *Wm. Hughes,
 *W. C. Hoeffler,
 *A. B. Wiltsie,
 *A. A. Schwegel.

Alternates.

R. N. Cassidy,
 R. A. Chadwick,
 *J. Price,
 R. M. Gage,
 Wm. Gordon,
 W. F. Rowley,
 F. W. Coones.

NAT LYON POST No. 46, ADRIAN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

A. Campbell,	George Hallas,
J. T. McKnight.	Wm. Travis.
J. T. McKnight, Post Commander.	

Representative.

Wm. Travis.

Alternate.

J. T. McKnight.

CANBY POST No. 47, FARMINGTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. N. Hosmer,	*J. M. D. Craft,
L. P. Fluke,	E. Z. Needham,
Leonard Aldrich.	
E. L. Brackett, Post Commander.	

Representatives.

*Barney Stevens,
 *J. B. Squires.

Alternates.

J. S. Cable,
 W. L. Parker.

HECKER POST No. 48, NEW ULM.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

*Wm. Pfaender.

*Wm. Plaender, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Francis Baasen.

Alternate.

B. Marchmer.

MAYNARD POST No. 49, ELYSIAN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Wallace M. Sterling,	Andrew J. Culp,
John Kuykendall,	Oliver F. Whitten,
Cornelius Culp,	John C. Chase,
Frank M. Long.	Erastus Fish.

Frank M. Long, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Robert W. Holcomb.	James S. Brand.

L. P. PLUMMER POST No. 50, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Wm. Boyer,	*Chas. G. Hunt,
*A. W. Guile.	*S. S. Linton.

*Geo. C. Wright, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*Chas. S. Lindsey,	Chas. Stears,
*Lewis Egoff.	J. B. Burdick.

JOHN F. REYNOLDS POST No. 51, ALEXANDRIA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. B. Cowing,	H. K. White,
H. Jenkins, Sr.	W. E. Chidester.

W. D. Fredenburg, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*G. J. Strang,	Christ Halverson,
A. H. Taylor.	J. H. Abbott.

SEDWICK POST No. 52, MONTICELLO.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Andrew McCormack,	E. D. Washburn,
H. M. Piper.	Wallace Sawyer.

*G. R. Wedgewood, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*C. C. Rice,	*J. M. Comaford,
E. B. McCord.	A. Jones.

MEADE POST No. 53, BIRD ISLAND.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. M. Bowler.	S. T. Slater.
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*J. M. Bowler, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*E. A. Hearn.	W. H. Frederick.

JAMES CLABAUGH POST No. 54, WINNEBAGO CITY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

N. McColley,	J. N. Miller,
B. F. Goodwin,	Joseph Teubner,
J. A. White,	E. A. Griffin,

*David Secor.

*David Secor, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*John Humphry,
*A. Butterfield,
*B. K. Whitney.

Alternates.

R. V. Hesselgrave,
Sam. Corry,
H. Loyd.

McCOLLEY POST No. 55, DELEVAN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. H. Wagoner,	Eben Harding,
S. F. Lent,	William Roske,
James Kinney.	

J. H. Wagoner, Post Commander.

Representative.

J. H. Wagoner.

Alternate.

*John L. Hart.

M. J. PAINE POST No. 56, STAPLES.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

*A. C. Poor.

W. J. Graves, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Hiram B. Mears.

Alternate.

Andrew J. Connor.

FRANK HALSTEAD POST No. 57, EXCELSIOR.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. R. Perkins,	James H. Clark,
F. G. Gould,	L. F. Sampson,
*H. W. DeGrott,	S. H. Dyer,
Edwin Aldrich.	James Aspden.

James Aspden, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Thomas Olun,
*George B. Halsted.

Alternates.

John W. Murray,
Geo. C. Phillips.

ELLSWORTH POST No. 58, RUSH CITY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

S. B. Clark. Geo. R. Lawrence.

S. B. Clark, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

S. B. Clark. E. W. Sloan.

LYTLE POST No. 59, STEWART.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. N. Perkins, Andrew Thompson,

C. A. Hoyt. J. H. Bardwell.

John E. Kuni, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*J. F. Byteen. J. H. Bardwell.

JOHN A. MYERS POST No. 60, JACKSON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. S. Bailey, C. H. Sandon,

W. V. King, M. Miller,

M. S. Barney. M. L. Ashley.

R. H. Wade, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

J. A. Willson. J. I. Wallace.

JOSEPH FREY POST No. 61, WACONIA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Adam Fisher. R. Ehard.

R. Ehard, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*Albert Kohler. Mathias Wessel.

WM. KETCHUM POST No. 62, ADA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. S. Bills, J. B. Ashelman,

B. M. Chesley, Alex. Holden,

*John Wright.

S. P. McHugh, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*John Wright. Lewis Weatherhead.

MITCHELL POST No. 63, MADELIA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. W. Murphy,	A. J. Nicholson,
C. M. Butts,	Henry Hudson,
G. H. Mayberry,	W. G. Bundy,
H. W. Wadsworth,	*S. B. Estes,
	C. C. Pitts.

*B. C. Sanborn, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Wm. Brown,
Jerome Crandall.

Alternates.

C. M. Pomeroy,
G. H. Mayberry.

JOHN A. LOGAN POST No. 64, ST. JAMES.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. P. Schultz,	J. B. Rhodes,
A. R. Peck,	M. E. Mullen,
	*E. G. Rasey.

*E. G. Rasey, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*J. P. Schultz,
*Robert Roland.

Alternates.

John Doolittle,
O. H. Howe.

GEN. SUMNER POST No. 65, AITKIN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. Potter,	R. C. McMurdy,	Frank E. Seavey,
	S. M. Shook, Post Commander.	

Representatives.

L. D. Bryant,
G. B. Berry.

Alternates.

W. C. Peller,
James W. Tibbets.

McINTYRE POST No. 66, AUSTIN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. H. Sutton,	D. H. McFadden,
Burr Maxwell,	*C. J. Miller,
Seymour Johnson,	C. W. Beisecker,
*A. E. Christie.	W. W. Ranney.

*Geo. W. Merrick, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Pierce Bump,
*J. H. DeRemer.

Alternates.

H. G. Case,
E. P. Spooner.

F. C. CHOATE POST No. 67, DETROIT.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. A. Clement,	G. N. Ross,
J. C. Bostick,	H. F. Jacobs,
A. S. Smart,	Geo. H. Edwards,

*F. B. Chapin.

*W. R. Morton, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*G. W. Grant,
*J. J. Martin.

Alternates.

W. C. Roberts,
M. L. Converse.

WM. DOWNS POST No. 68, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Luther Sage,	*Geo. W. Hare,
*Chas. H. Taylor,	Theodore Hill,
*L. L. Locke.	*E. W. Vaughn.

*M. G. Yarnell, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*J. A. Mitchell,
*Geo. C. McNeal.

Alternates.

C. E. Emery,
J. D. Carroll.

GEORGE COOK POST No. 69, STILLWATER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

B. G. Merry.	*James Mulvey.
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*James Mulvey, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Geo. O. Haskell,
*Percy B. Smith.

Alternates.

Solomon Fuller,
I. N. Morrell.

E. HAINLIN POST No. 70, WATERTOWN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. G. Halgren,	John Mara,
*V. Heck.	*Frank Acker.

C. G. Halgren, Post Commander.

Representatives.

C. O. Teas,
*W. St. John.

Alternates.

J. P. Atkins,
A. G. Miller.

WESLEY GREENE POST No. 71, SLEEPY EYE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Wm. M. Murfrie,	Fred Gerboth,
Isaac Gallagher,	Truman Wheeler,
F. D. Greene,	Wm. B. Hill,
John C. Zieske,	Sam. Sherman,
	O. J. Owens.

F. D. Greene, Post Commander.

*Representative.**Alternate.*

*A. Pickle.	John C. Zieske.
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APPOMATTOX POST No. 72, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. D. Meadows,	*W. H. Dow,
M. D. Corkey,	*W. H. Garvey,
*J. H. Abbott,	*Wm. Schemerhorn,
*Isaac Layman,	E. D. Bristol,
	P. Olson Earl.

*John Duff, Post Commander.

*Representatives.**Alternates.*

*H. F. Oliver,	T. C. VanValkenberg,
*C. W. Shatto.	L. L. Wheelock.

LEVI BUTLER POST No. 73, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. C. Price,	J. F. Force,
*V. Truesdale,	*P. H. Mayhew,
*R. H. Branton,	B. F. Seaborn,
*O. B. Skinner,	C. W. Maddock,
*H. L. Mason,	*L. O. Merriam,
	*Harry Goodale.

*E. L. Higgins, Post Commander.

*Representatives.**Alternates.*

*Geo. W. Robinson,	*P. H. Mayhew,
J. Booth,	L. T. Barker,
*C. S. McDonald.	H. C. Obert.

SAM LOUDEN POST No. 74, MAPLETON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

A. A. Stevens,	J. M. Sprague,
W. N. Plymat,	A. Davis,
Wm. C. Daly.	R. S. Potter.

John Taylor, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*S. C. Brooks,	Thomas Bowman,
Wm. McQueen.	M. M. Pratt.

A. E. WELCH POST No. 75, RED WING.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. A. Hancock,	O. W. Orser,
W. W. DeKay,	A. F. Graves,
*W. H. Blaker.	

C. L. Davis, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*Wm. Llewellyn,	W. B. Hancock,
*J. A. Anderson,	Fred. Hempfling,
*J. C. Hawes.	R. Kruger.

E. B. GIBBS POST No. 76, WHITE BEAR.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

James Lonergan,	M. W. Erhardt,
James C. Murray,	Samuel Winship,
*E. Z. Patterson.	

*M. W. Erhardt, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*William Gundlach.	Philander Long.

A. R. HARRISON POST No. 77, MINN. LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. W. Apley,	W. H. Dodge,	M. Manders.
		M. Manders, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*B. Latowell,	John Kreemer,
*Wm. Heller.	John Lawrush.

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FARNSWORTH POST No. 78, CORDOVIA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. H. Jones. Jacob Sapp.

Wm. McConkey, Post Commander.

Representative.

Mathias Rau.

Alternate.

*Newton S. Brown.

LA GRANGE POST No. 79, WINDOM.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

J. F. French.

R. R. Jenness, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*H. A. Cone,

*A. W. Johnson.

Alternates.

D. P. Langley,

H. T. Ellis.

U. S. GRANT POST No. 80, EDGERTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

R. O. Bevans,

John Pemberton,

R. J. Butts.

M. M. Gonsolan,

W. R. Terrell,

A. A. Dodge.

D. E. Runals, Post Commander.

Representative.

*C. A. Oliver.

Alternate.

O. H. Rolf.

JAMES A. GOODWIN POST No. 81, OWATONNA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. L. Wheelock,

E. A. Tyler,

*J. C. Barnard,

C. B. Wilkinson.

George E. Sloan,

Frank M. Banter,

L. G. Nelson.

C. W. Hadley, Post Commander.

Representatives

*Robert Thom,

*L. C. Berg,

*Wm. Gamble.

Alternates.

C. Butzel,

A. S. Bragg,

John Carter.

FRANK P. BLAIR POST No. 82, ORTONVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John McCollom,	O. C. Wheeler,
John A. Wilson,	F. Shumaker,
A. J. Scofield,	C. A. Chamberlain,
A. J. Parker.	John Van Allen.

*A. J. Hess, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
John T. Crippen	(None reported.)

J. L. HEYWOOD POST No. 83, NORTHFIELD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Dan Goodhue,	B. F. Woodman,
D. F. Kelly,	M. M. Clark,
J. C. Cooper,	C. E. Wilcox,
Frank Curran,	E. Spear,

C. P. Nichols.

John Clifford, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*Jas. Martin,	Thos. Arthur,
*J. F. Wyman.	A. Brown.

E. L. KENNEY POST No. 84, CHATFIELD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John R. Jones,	M. W. Webber,
	C. E. Burk.

George Andrus, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*C. W. Tabour,	Geo. Fisher,
*John Holborn.	Wm. Patterson.

JOHN S. MARSH POST No. 85, REDWOOD FALLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. M. Dunnington,	A. L. Gale,
*E. D. French.	E. B. Hale.

H. C. Baker, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*E. M. Brooks,	A. L. Gale,
H. N. Bell.	Levi Annis.

GOODSELL POST No. 86, HOWARD LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Thomas R. Briggs,	John Wagner,
F. E. Latham,	Chas. W. Fogle,
*Edwin Brewster,	*Wm. O. Shearman,
Wm. May,	John Painter.

*E. Brewster, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Wm. O. Shearman.

Alternate.

John Painter.

HENRY MORTON POST No. 87, ST. CHARLES.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

S. C. McElaney,	John L. Blair,
George Hayes,	E. J. Dowling,
George L. Wheelock.	W. H. Grogan.

Watson Hesselgrave, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Allen Girrish,
John Burton.

Alternates.

J. S. Worden,
S. C. McElaney.

WILLIAM GRANT POST No. 88, OSSEO.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John Heckman,	Henry Curtis,
J. H. Mitchell,	O. P. Henry,
Geo. A. Lafflin,	G. W. Savage,
E. E. Evans,	Jas. McConnell,

*G. H. Smith.

*G. H. Smith, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Geo. Cook.

Alternate.

David Alexander.

PELLER POST No. 89, HASTINGS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

M. H. Sullivan,	*J. M. Tucker,
W. H. DeKav,	W. F. Bacon,
W. DeW. Pringle,	J. C. Fitch.

Jerome Hanna.

W. DeW. Pringle, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*W. W. Stewart,
A. E. Owen,

Alternates.

W. L. Matteson,
W. E. Van Anken.

COL. COBHAM POST No. 90, CROOKSTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. A. Harris,	Louis Fontain,
*B. F. Zaracher,	J. O. Laraeunt,
J. V. Jennings.	*Chas. H. Mix.

H. E. Cooke, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*C. H. Mix,
*B. F. Zaracher.

Alternates.

N. K. Olson,
J. W. Kelley.

SEWARD POST No. 91, PELICAN RAPIDS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

F. E. Blodget,	L. L. Rundell,
J. A. Faulds,	O. A. Burdick
M. T. Leonard.	J. W. Lockhart.

J. B. Lancaster, Post Commander.

Representatives.

J. W. Lockhart,
M. F. Jacobs.

Alternates.

J. D. Irish,
J. A. Faulds.

GEO. MCKINLEY POST No. 92, CANNON FALLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. F. Deline,	W. E. Poe,
E. L. Clark,	J. L. Scofield,
F. J. Johnson,	D. Valentine,
C. A. Scofield.	H. H. Bissell.

M. Doyle, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*T. Czisklitor,
*Geo. Cook.

Alternates.

R. Smithson,
R. McKenley.

N. B. BARRON POST No. 93, WATERVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*C. H. Robinson,	*S. B. Coe,
J. W. Jackson,	*H. Van Buren,

A. P. Merrill.

*John T. Dickenson, Post Commander.

Representative.

*L. G. Reynolds.

Alternate.

C. H. Volkman.

C. SUMMERS POST No. 94, CANBY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Samuel Bland,	Newton Landra,
M. E. Wescott,	*W. F. Smith,

C. H. Gatfield.

M. E. Wescott, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*W. F. Smith,
H. A. Herrick.

Alternates.

John McGill,
Newton Anderson.

SIMON MIX POST No. 95, PIPESTONE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*John Pearson,	E. A. Rice,
B. S. Clark,	C. H. Smith,
C. C. Goodnow,	*Robert Scarf,
*George D. Green,	*A. W. Hadwick,

*C. H. Bennett.

*A. Hitchcox, Post Commander.

Representatives.

*Warren McCarter,
*G. W. Wright.

Alternates.

A. G. Smith,
M. Churchill.

JOHN A. DIX POST No. 96, LUVERNE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. D. Hadley,	E. H. Bronson,
Philo Hawes.	James Preston.

E. S. Rogers, Post Commander.

Representatives.

E. D. Hadley,
*G. H. Henton.

Alternates.

E. H. Bronson,
L. L. Bryan.

RUSHFORD POST No. 97, RUSHFORD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

N. P. Colburn,	G. W. Rockwell,
C. W. Gore,	S. A. Pierce,
J. H. Moore.	O. L. Jahr.

O. L. Jahr, Post Commander.

Representative.

J. H. Moore.

Alternate.

(None reported.)

ASH POST No. 98, ALDEN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John Scoville,	T. B. Fisher,
S. N. Payne.	J. E. Stark.

Elliott Ash, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
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*John Garlock.	J. E. Stark.
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A. J. OVERTON POST No. 99, MORRIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. D. Gillispie,	N. R. Spurr,
W. L. Colyer.	R. J. Hall.

*J. D. Gillispie, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
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*J. D. Gillispie.	C. A. Pepper.
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E. T. WOOD POST No. 100, LONG PRAIRIE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Albert Rhodes,	*E. B. Wood,
*John Waite,	Z. V. Booth,
Martin Rodman.	J. H. Cates.

*E. B. Wood, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
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Michael Noslin,	Michael Dinkel,
Fritz Knarr.	J. D. Radabaugh.

EMERY UPTON POST No. 101 BROWNS VALLEY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. Foren,	H. C. Burdick,
J. G. Todd.	J. M. Foren.

H. G. Smith, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
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S. Y. Jordan.	(None reported.)
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FARRAGUT POST No. 102, WADENA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

George A. Whitney,	B. F. Olive,
C. B. Boss,	*L. F. Yeaton,
Harry Lovell,	A. C. Packard,

H. P. Ackerman.

Friend Farwell, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
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*L. F. Yeaton,	Thomas Miller,
Geo. A. Whitney.	Harry Lowell.

L. H. TENNEY POST No. 103, HAWLEY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. P. Sloggs,	L. Osborne,
W. Works.	Geo. N. Lamphere.

Warren Onan, Post Commander.

Representative.

*G. E. Peters.

Alternate.

O. E. Nelson.

HOLD THE FORT POST No. 104, PERHAM.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*D. L. Wellman.	Henry Plowman.
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Henry Plowman, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Michael Huso.

Alternate.

Wm. Hoffman.

VON MINDEN POST No. 105, JORDAN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

George B. Reed,	Henry Busch,
Geo. C. Schmidt,	Peter Brown,
	Paul L. Higgins.

Chas. E. Morrell, Post Commander.

Representative.

Adolph Engell.

Alternate.

Jacob Schaak.

KILPATRICK POST No. 106, DEER CREEK.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Homer Crocker,	Peter Trauer,
*E. R. Keplinger,	James Tayler,
W. B. Rector,	C. B. Soule,
	J. B. Hompe.

W. B. Rector, Post Commander.

Representative.

*E. R. Keplinger.

Alternate.

J. B. Hunt.

A. D. CARROLL POST No. 107, PLAINVIEW.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

C. L. Fish,	William Lawton,
E. R. Cornell,	Henry Norton,
R. R. Damoude,	J. P. Waste,
	D. E. Clark.

R. R. Damoude, Post Commander.

Representatives.

R. C. Wright,
George R. Hall.

Alternates.

Thaddeus Parr,
John Safford.

A. J. MURPHY POST No. 108, LAKE CRYSTAL.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

Henry Herring.

George W. Holmes, Post Commander.

Representative.

*H. C. Bartlett.

Alternate.

Edward R. Jones.

PHILLIP CUTLAND POST No. 109, SPRINGFIELD.

(No Credentials.)

GEO. W. HASKELL POST No. 110, LINWOOD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*John Grant,

C. C. Steward,

E. E. Pratt,

*J. P. Aney,

Rodger Ridge.

*John Grant, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Jacob Emmons,

Alternates.

*Claus Ahrens.

L. B. Streeter,

S. F. Richardson.

JOE MOWER POST No. 111, PINE ISLAND.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Fletcher Haglan,

A. J. Chase,

W. H. Swartout,

J. C. Dickey,

M. A. Robinson,

D. G. Finch,

*Frederick Strobel.

Marshal Hickok.

*Frederick Strobel, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Chris Matty,

Alternates.

L. P. Blair,

Hiram Alberts,

John Kundert.

D. F. Hobbs,

Hans Pordt.

A. C. COLLINS POST No. 112, CLEARWATER.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

D. E. Collins,

J. M. Baxter,

*G. P. Boutwell,

W. T. Brannon,

S. A. Howard,

A. C. Powers,

W. P. West.

*John Kaufman, Post Commander.

Representative.

J. M. Lyons.

Alternate.

B. C. Clark.

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C. C. PARKER POST No. 113, VERNDALE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John Butler,	N. Chapin,
*C. E. Bullard,	C. Ditmore,
E. E. Castle.	Harrison Lyons.

C. Ditmore, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Harrison Lyons.	Chas. A. Alten.

C. H. HUNTER POST No. 114, HANCOCK.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. Stebbins,	W. W. Poolson,
W. W. Huntley,	A. E. Hulitt,
A. Cook,	C. J. Blackman,

*H. D. Tenney.

Fred Getchell, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*H. D. Tenney.	L. Stebbins.

A. J. HUBBARD POST No. 115, HERMAN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

T. H. Barrett,	George Smith,
A. C. Earsley,	*E. Humiston,
H. F. Sanford,	I. R. Swartout,

*D. W. Hixon.

T. C. Hodgson, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*Joseph Luckman.	T. J. Leason.

BEN FRANKLIN POST No. 116, MORTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Peter Henry,	*Joseph Smith,
J. K. Dening,	*C. H. Hopkins,
Jerry Patton,	John Foley,

A. J. Bliss.

*C. H. Hopkins, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*James Allison.	Elber Vanomen.

MAJOR DOUGHTY POST No. 117, LAKE CITY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

R. H. Moore,	M. M. Ingraham,
A. D. Prescott,	W. H. Warring,
	J. J. Beatty,
T. L. Dwelle, Post Commander.	

Representative. *Alternate.*

*Geo. A. Laflin.	R. H. Moore.
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HARDY POST No. 118, LANESBORO.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. W. Sackett,	Thomas Rafferty,
Oscar J. Wall.	Seymour Gilbert,
George E. Dolphin, Post Commander.	

Representative. *Alternate.*

W. S. Henry.	George Turner.
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JAMES BRYANT POST No. 119, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John Day Smith,	*J. F. Reynolds,
*A. A. Kelly,	*C. W. Curtiss,
*B. M. Hicks,	*F. A. Heebner,
*C. H. Mero,	*W. Lee Moore,
*J. W. Gilger.	*John F. Perry.
*J. C. Rice, Post Commander.	

Representatives. *Alternates.*

*C. S. Getz,	Leroy Cole,
*Henry Goff,	J. N. Allen,
*J. N. Richardson.	M. J. Kelly.

GORDON GRANGER POST No. 120, MAPLE PLAIN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*R. M. Mills,	H. Jackson,
Jacob Beal,	R. McCullough,
*J. H. McGary.	

B. H. Hall, Post Commander.

Representatives. *Alternates.*

*Wm. W. Mills,	H. F. Fisher,
*Wm. Copp.	G. Washington.

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SCOFIELD POST No. 121, ZUMBROTA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. D. Warren,	*J. Lathrop,
O. H. Hall,	H. M. Scofield,
*W. E. Mosher,	E. Stacy,
	H. W. Squires.

B. Olson, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Wm. Doxey.	Louis Ebener.

UNDERWOOD POST No. 122, PRESTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. S. Bassett.	E. V. Farrington.
E. V. Farrington, Post Commander.	

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
G. W. Hard,	Jerome Utley,
Fred Young.	W. K. Read.

MICHAEL COOK POST No. 123, FARIBAULT.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

A. E. Haven,	J. C. Aldrich,
*J. J. Dow,	James Hunter,
J. R. Parchall,	Henry Roth,
*E. N. Leavens,	*A. L. Emery,
*Joseph Mold.	Thomas J. Conlin.

*James Hale, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*W. S. Earenhart,	E. R. Wood,
*J. W. Richardson.	N. A. Cadwalader.

STEWART POST No. 124, NEW LONDON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*G. C. Thomas,	J. W. Price,
Peter Larson.	M. Battleberry,
R. C. Hudson, Post Commander.	

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*G. C. Thomas.	B. A. Cole.

COL. HEG POST No. 125, WILLMAR.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*A. E. Rice,	U. A. Cady,
*W. D. Manning,	*John M. Boyd,
M. Jorgenson,	A. H. Sperry,
*E. G. Blomfield.	Solomon Porter.

Solomon Porter, Post Commander.

*Representative.**Alternate.*

C. Henning.

*Aug. Anderson.

JOHN A. RAWLINS POST No. 126, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*R. R. Henderson,	*Ell Torrance,
*W. G. Byron,	*Frederick C. Harvey,
*Daniel Fish,	*Electus A. Pratt,
*Thomas Downs,	*C. W. Forbes,
*Henry A. Norton.	*James Crays.

Leverett C. Stevens, Post Commander.

*Representatives.**Alternates.*

*D. A. Cudworth,

G. H. Holden,

*W. H. Keller,

Charles C. Leland,

*Byron Sutherland,

Henry Downs,

*George W. Fox.

W. W. Rich.

ELLISON POST No. 127, NORTH BRANCH.

[Post Office, Harris.]

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

F. G. Palmer,

Jacob Christenson,

C. F. Stark.

Eric Johnson.

F. G. Palmer, Post Commander.

*Representative.**Alternate.*

F. G. Palmer.

John Jarchon.

JOSHUA B. CULVER POST No. 128, DULUTH.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*J. G. McGrew,	Geo. N. LaVaque,
*J. O. Milne,	G. T. Johns,
T. H. Pressnell,	Henry C. Helm,
*C. H. Graves.	

N. A. Gearhart, Post Commander.

*Representatives.**Alternates.*

*W. G. Tenbrook,

R. C. Lerch,

*M. W. Bates.

J. A. Grey.

• FREEMAN POST No. 129, GREY EAGLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

T. J. Bass,	Giles Robins,
A. K. Hinman,	S. N. Thompson,
	F. H. Billings.

T. J. Bass, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*Eli Woodman.	S. N. Thompson.

BOOTH POST No. 130, GRAND MEADOWS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. B. Sheldon,	R. A. Donaldson,
	James F. Carson.

James F. Carson, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*C. F. Greening,	John Schroeder,
*Wm. Vannatta.	· E. O. Hoods.

* JOSEPH GARRISON POST No. 131, DODGE CENTRE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

W. R. Dresbach,	*E. R. Whiting,
*T. J. Hunt,	*C. E. Burdick,
*C. J. Humison.	*J. White.

C. S. Bigelow, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
J. M. Lawrence,	R. G. Hill,
*W. H. Wells.	*J. F. Shawboldt.

GEORGE P. SAWYER POST No. 132, MEDFORD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*George B. Hatfield,	J. M. Cole,
George Y. Cook.	George H. Butler.

George H. Butler, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
D. Boynton.	*J. L. Barney.

COLFAX POST No. 133, DASSELL.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

T. H. Pendergast,	Isaac Vervalen,
John A. Quick,	Wm. H. Spath.

R. T. Elliott, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
J. Z. Cassel,	Wm. Caferey,
E. T. Taylor,	Jno. G. Bogar.

JAMES M. McKELVEY POST No. 134, ST. CLOUD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Geo. A. Spencer,	*Fred Reed,
F. B. Gorman,	*D. A. Perkins,
*John Schaefer,	James Biggerstaff.

James Biggerstaff, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
E. J. Smart,	*D. A. Perkins,
*John Coates.	M. F. Sweet.

H. H. EDWARDS POST No. 135, SHERBURNE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

M. M. Jenkins,	T. L. Record,
	V. P. McGhan.

M. M. Jenkins, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
N. J. Sibathern.	Cyrus Weber.

I. O. RUSSELL POST No. 136, GRANITE FALLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

R. R. Hotchkiss,	C. A. Bennett,
C. E. Clark,	W. N. Olin,
Jacob Cook,	L. M. Keene,
	G. Powers.

L. M. Keene, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
K. Kjeinhous,	Gilbert Gilbertson,
A. G. Thompson.	Jacob Cook.

B. F. DAVIS POST No. 137 PINE CITY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. E. Netzer,	John F. Stone,
	Oliver Wilcox.

E. A. Hough, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
J. E. Netzer.	T. B. Inman.

EVERTS POST No. 138, BATTLE LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. A. Everts,	*J. P. Davis,
Simon McAtee,	F. H. Ransom,
J. A. Colehouse,	M. W. Adley,
J. C. Eplee,	George Chapman,
	F. M. Mosher.

A. S. Wimer, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*T. K. Johnson.	H. L. Burges.

STEPHEN MILLER POST No. 139, WOODSTOCK.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*James Shields,	*C. W. Sargent,
	*Fred Bloom.

*Fred Bloom, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*C. W. Sargent.	John Souls.

VAN RANSAILER POST No. 140, MELROSE.

Charter Surrendered Jan. 15th, 1895.

JOHN KENNEDY POST No. 141, OSAKIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

M. D. Judkins,	W. H. Crowe,
Joseph Bird,	W. H. Stevens.

W. H. Stevens, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
W. H. Crowe.	A. O. Berry.

WALLACE T. RINES POST No. 142, PRINCETON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

T. H. Caley,	Phineas Gates,
A. G. Norton,	J. A. Ross,
C. B. Rodgers,	Geo. W. Taylor.

L. P. Southard, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Joseph Nokes.	F. M. Campbell.

THE HANCOCK POST No. 143, WABASHA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Chas. J. Stauff,	J. W. Steele,
J. H. Mullin,	*W. L. Lewark,
*J. A. Peck,	S. S. Tenney,

J. B. Mullins.

*J. A. Peck, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
Thomas Wheeler,	H. B. Whetnig,
J. Gengnagel,	N. Carrells,
R. A. Johnson,	J. Hendricks.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES POST No. 144, DULUTH.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. R. Jefferson,	H. C. Osterhout,
James Farrell,	Asa Dailey,

S. F. White.

E. B. Paxson, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
John Wadleigh.	D. W. Hayden.

E. M. KENFIELD POST No. 145, BARNEVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John Baumgardner,	H. P. Sweetmore,
*John Marth,	*James Strachan,
O. S. Kenfield,	S. Hawley,

I. L. Hart.

*John Marth, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
*John T. Allen,	John Engelhardt,
*John Marth.	Mike Farley.

GEN. W. S. HANCOCK POST No. 146, HENDERSON.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

J. P. Kirby.

John Geib, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Henry Otting,
Benjamin Schuakenberg,
*Charles Hoecke,

Alternates.

*Charles Woehler,
H. Schulenberg,
E. D. Schurtz.

E. S. FRAZIER POST No. 147, PARK RAPIDS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

F. E. Baker,
P. D. Winship,

A. E. Dickinson,
S. S. McKinley.

P. D. Winship, Post Commander.

Representatives.

P. D. Winship,
A. E. Dickinson.

Alternates.

F. E. Baker,
A. A. Tower.

GETTYSBURG POST No. 148, ST. PAUL.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*C. Brunner,

*M. W. Gordy.

D. H. Ball,

*John C. Miller, Post Commander.

Representative.

*J. C. Taft.

Alternate.

(None reported)

B. F. SWEET POST No. 149, HERON LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*C. R. J. Kelloom,

R. E. Dickens,

C. F. Morley,

*C. Winzer,

W. H. Jones.

W. N. Williams, Post Commander.

Representative.

J. F. Humiston.

Alternate.

A. H. Freer.

DEVILLO C. FORD POST No. 150, MAZEPPA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Wesley Kinney,

Chas. Turner,

Henry Pengilly,

Orten Ford,

C. C. Robinson,

Z. B. Page.

Geo. W. Hall, Post Commander.

Representatives.

Henry Pengilly,

Alternates.

Chas. Turner.

C. C. Robinson,

Horton Ford.

GEO. B. ADAMS POST No. 151, EAGLE BEND.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. G. Pendergast,	Geo. W. Tyson,
George Kyes,	Giles Peak.

H. M. Dibble, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
C. H. Bond.	George Konkle.

CASSIUS FAIRCHILD POST No. 152, DAWSON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

S. A. Anderson,	John McGlaughlin,
W. S. Grow,	R. M. Gifford,
John Remick,	*S. W. Park,
Josiah Darling.	

John Remick, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*J. H. Maxwell.	Peter Simpson.

L. P. PENCE POST No. 153, MORRISTOWN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. P. Temple,	Wm. Wolever,
C. C. Aldrich,	J. M. Rohrer,
E. R. Horton.	M. A. Temple.

John G. Parker, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
H. Clemens,	A. H. Ridgeway,
C. Bloomer.	E. R. Horton.

J. C. WHIPPLE POST No. 154, MONTROSE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. K. Flanders,	Christian Kraus,
J. N. Haven.	Adolph Kommers.
Valentine Holtz, Post Commander.	

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*John Young.	George Kreidler.

GEN. SHIELDS POST No. 155, SHAKOPEE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Eli Southworth,	Andrew Kopp,
Wm. E. Hull,	*John C. Ince,
C. A. Stevens.	*John Eller.

*John Eller, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*John C. Ince.	Andrew Kopp.

COL. DAVID HUGHS POST No. 156, LAMBERTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

R. Morton,	Geo. Skelton,	H. Small.
	H. Small, Post Commander.	

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*C. M. Herreman.	J. H. Nelson.

PHIL SHERIDAN POST No. 157, ROYALTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. D. Logan,	A. A. Morrill,
L. D. Forbes,	F. S. Flint,
W. Hubbs.	*Paul Noe.

Albert E. Joslin, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*Paul Noe.	Albert E. Joslin.

WM. R. BAXTER POST No. 158, CHASKA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Herman Muelberg,	Charles Johnson,
Julius Schaler,	F. D. Chapman,
	F. E. DuToit.

Julius Schaler, Post Commander.

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
Joseph Ess,	Jacob Kirsh,
Henry Gabelhei.	Herman Brinkhaus.

H. D. SHAW POST No. 159, JARRETT'S.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*F. W. Shaw,	M. Higgins,
*P. Dickman,	A. Fox,
E. Polson.	F. Allbright.

*P. Dickman, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
C. Krueger.	E. Polson.

J. C. BECHT POST No. 160, YOUNG AMERICA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

F. Remer,	G. H. Thomas,
Henry Lindent.	Henry Etzell.

Henry Etzell, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
Henry Etzell.	*Henry Fabel.

STANNARD POST No. 161, MOTLEY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Chas. H. Hodge,	J. F. Weston,
J. S. Francisco,	A. L. Critcholow,
F. M. Lawhead,	J. J. Francisco,
A. A. Compton.	F. W. Clifford.

J. E. Davenport, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
F. W. Clifford.	J. S. Francisco.

LOGAN POST No. 162, SLAYTON.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

J. E. Doak.	*A. H. Fowler.
	*A. H. Fowler, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
*C. A. Norton.	Peter Kegan.

JACOB SCHAEFER POST No. 163, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*John A. Gilman,	*Adolph Lempke,
*Fred Wahl,	*Mathias Kees,
*Nick Bretz,	*Peter Kommers,
	*Wm. Gheritz.

*Wm. Jabush, Post Commander.

Representatives.	Alternates.
*Joseph Winman,	George Roof,
*Louis Sherer.	August Fisher.

JOHN W. COCHRANE POST No. 164, BUFFALO.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*George Davis,	Chas. Mills,
*Wm. H. Cochran,	Frank McKnight,
	E. T. Sexton.

*Wm. H. Cochran, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
*Wm. H. Cochran.	Lafayette Warner.

RANSOM POST No. 165, WELLS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Alfred L. Taylor,	C. S. Dunbar,
C. K. Baxter.	*L. W. Allen.

*L. W. Allen, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
*C. F. Bassett.	T. S. Dunning.

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JOHN BUFORD POST No. 166, BEAVER CREEK.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Harrison White. James Marshall.

M. V. Perry, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

Abraham Osman. *I. H. Burt.

JOSEPH ORCUTT POST No. 167, WEST CONCORD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

L. L. Woodworth. F. T. Chase.

*James S. Whiting, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

M. M. Simms. J. R. Rions.

GEO. BRADLEY POST No. 168, BELLE PLAIN.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Samuel Bowler. Michael Fogarty.

Samuel Bowler, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*Martin Morrison. (None reported.)

ARTHUR DOUGLAS POST No. 169, ROCKFORD.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*S. D. Fuller, *J. R. Cunningham,

*J. M. Powers. Wm. Mott.

*John Hamilton, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*G. W. Shelly. S. V. Frederick.

JAMES DAVIS POST No. 170, DAKOTA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*Allen M. Short. Wm. J. Seals.

Wm. J. Seals, Post Commander.

Representative. *Alternate.*

*Allen M. Short. James Dovill.

OLIVER P. MORTON POST No. 171, MINNEAPOLIS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*M. H. Sessions,	P. E. Folson,
*Chas. Bromwich,	*T. B. Hawkins,
*F. P. Eckert.	*W. T. Kendall.

Hiram Bracey, Post Commander.

Representatives.	Alternates.
S. S. Wales,	Wm. Parsons,
J. E. Cohenour.	*A. Aplin.

J. B. WAKEFIELD POST No. 172, LONG LAKE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

A. C. Bailey,	Aretus Smith,
Chas. T. Graves,	*H. C. Russell,
	D. V. Plant.

James Maxwell, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
Abel W. Cook.	*S. L. Richardson.

COL. GEORGE POST No. 173, FERTILE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*O. P. Renne.	H. C. Burdick.
	*O. P. Renne, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
H. Juleson.	*O. P. Renne.

DAVID OAKES POST No. 174, MONTGOMERY.

(No Credentials.)

J. D. WOOLDRIDGE POST No. 175, STEWARTVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

E. S. Wooldridge.

E. S. Wooldridge, Post Commander.

Representative.	Alternate.
*J. S. Rockwell.	Ed. Armstrong.

WILKIN POST No. 176, BRECKENRIDGE.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

L. B. Everdell.

L. B. Everdell, Post Commander.

Representatives.	Alternates.
(None reported.)	(None reported.)

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GEN. HAZEN POST No. 177, RENVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

John J. Smith.	S. D. Childs.
	S. D. Childs, Post Commander.
<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
(None reported.)	(None reported.)

STEADMAN POST No. 178, HECTOR.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

	Wm. F. Grummons.
	Wm. F. Grummons, Post Commander.
<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*John C. Riebe.	*Charles Hannan.

E. S. KELLOGG POST No. 179, HEWETT.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

	*James E. Andrews.
	W. H. Cornell, Post Commander.
<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*James E. Andrews.	W. H. Cornell.

EAGLE POST No. 180, FOSSTON.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

	*W. L. Hilliard.
	*W. L. Hilliard, Post Commander.
<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*W. L. Hilliard.	C. J. Lillo.

FREMONT POST No. 181, FREMONT.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Robert Butchers,	James P. Jackson,	B. F. Every.
	E. D. Wilmot,	Post Commander.
<i>Representatives.</i>		<i>Alternates.</i>
B. F. Every,		Murray Kelly,
Robert Butchers.		C. H. Witter.

MONEY CREEK POST No. 182, MONEY CREEK,
PAST POST COMMANDERS.

George Miller,	G. M. Covey,
Charles Wilsie.	L. Swenson.
Samuel Clayton, Post Commander.	

<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Alternates.</i>
G. M. Covey,	J. Holland,
L. Swenson.	P. Erickson.

OLIVER B. SMITH POST No. 183, LE SUEUR.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

E. S. Evans,	*Lewis Horst,
Wm. Walsh.	*Patrick Doherty.
*Patrick Doherty, Post Commander.	

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*S. A. Randolph.	A. H. Mohler.

BOOEN POST No. 184, GLENVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

R. P. Gift.

R. P. Gift, Post Commander.

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
R. M. Leighty.	*S. P. Beighley.

W. W. PRESTON POST No. 185, ASHBY.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*K. N. Olson,	*F. Wahldieck,	R. Beardsley.
*K. N. Olson, Post Commander.		

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
E. C. Schow.	Henry Pennack.

FRANK VIDETO POST No. 186, WITOKA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

Volney E. Waffle,	Wm. W. Caine,	Richard Butchers.
Wm. W. Caine, Post Commander.		

<i>Representative.</i>	<i>Alternate.</i>
*John Young.	August J. Cooper.

A. L. DARLING POST No. 187, BROWNSVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDER.

W. J. Secord.

W. J. Secord, Post Commander.

*Representatives.*M. Roster,
Geo. Billings.*Alternates.*Geo. Palmer.
James Darling.

EUGENE M. WILSON POST No. 188, PAYNESVILLE.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

*John W. Darby. W. P. Hammond.

Samuel P. Roach, Post Commander.

Representative.

*John W. Darby.

Alternate.

G. S. Sager.

S. B. SHEARDOWN POST No. 189, WINONA.

PAST POST COMMANDERS.

H. L. Church.

J. M. Sheardown.

*Benjamin Kirst, Post Commander.

Representative.

*Alex. Doig.

Alternate.

T. H. Shaw.

[NOTE.—As the roll was called only at the opening of the first session, doubtless many comrades were present afterward whom it has been impossible to credit as present by the asterisk (*) in this roll.—A. A. G.]

OFFICERS' REPORTS.

ADDRESS OF DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, SAM R. VAN SANT.

Comrades:

The year just closed has been one of the happiest of my life. One year ago when you unanimously elected me Commander of this Department, I promised you to work zealously for the up-building of our beloved Order. I have done my best, and now that I am about to turn over the office to my successor, I want to thank you again and again for the great confidence reposed in me. I prize your confidence and I hope that I have done nothing, nor never will, to cause you to hold me in less esteem than you do to-day. The office of Department Commander is an exalted one—few in the very nature of things can hope to hold it, but after all, comrades, the greatest honor that was ever conferred upon me, you, or any other man, was when we, in the prime of our young manhood, took up our guns and went to the South and fought to save this Nation. That honor we all share alike. I am glad to see so many comrades here and I trust that our deliberations will be both pleasant and profitable.

CONDITION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

One year ago we had in good standing 8,037 members. It was my ambition to not only keep this membership intact, but so increase it that the Department would be larger than ever in its history. We started out full of hope, and we were sanguine of success. To do this seemed quite easy, as we would have to make only an average gain of three in each Post; besides, in the state there are over 20,000 old soldiers, and the commissioner of pensions in his last statement reports over 16,000 as drawing pensions. What was the result? We gained by muster, 413; by transfer, 162; by re-instatement, 229; by delinquent reports, 124; making a total of 928. A splendid gain, why should we not feel encouraged? But alas! see the other side, we lose by death, 138. This loss we must face each year. This year it was in excess of the previous one, and so I fear it must continue for some time. We lose by transfer, 164; this, too, we must figure on, but our net loss

was only 2 and honorably discharged, 20. But here comes the discouraging part. We lost by suspension, 643; dishonorable discharge, 3; and by delinquent reports, 198, making a total of 1,185, showing a net loss of 257, so that we now have in good standing 7,780. The large suspension list is a very discouraging feature. How to obviate it is a serious question. I am of the opinion that the comrade should be carried if too poor to pay his dues, but the comrade who can (and there are many) and will not, should be dropped, and not permitted to wear our badge—the most honorable that was ever placed on breast of man. There is no good reason why every honorably discharged Union soldier and sailor should not be in our ranks; but many are careless and indifferent, and still many more wear the button who pay no dues and are no help to their comrades in distress. While we regret the large suspension list, yet if any of the above causes produce the same we will be better off without them, so let us close up ranks, touch elbows, and fight on and fight ever. As long as there is an old comrade in distress, there is need of the Grand Army of the Republic. The end must come. Too soon our Order must die, but until that time does come let us stand together as one man.

FIELD WORK.

During my term of office as Department Commander I have traveled more than 10,000 miles in this state; have visited a very large number of Posts and in nearly every case the Post visited had a camp-fire, to which all comrades in the adjacent towns and villages were invited. This gave an excellent opportunity to so many more of the comrades to attend than otherwise would have been possible. The camp-fires were largely attended, and the lessons of patriotism there taught cannot but result in beneficial effects. This work while very laborious, more than pays, not only in arousing the comrades to the necessity for unity of action, but it makes the officers better Grand Army men. To visit one Post I traveled eight hundred and four miles. This field work is the life of the Order. It must be done, and the facts warrant me in saying that no Post visited has lost interest or surrendered its charter. My opinion is that the field work should continue. The comrades everywhere gave us a soldiers' welcome. In this connection I would state that I have been ably seconded by Senior Vice Commander Reed, Junior Vice Commander McKay and Assistant Adjutant General Mertz. I cannot let this opportunity pass to speak in the most praiseworthy manner of the latter, Assistant Adjutant General Mertz. His labor has been arduous—often times traveling all day and many times all night, out in all kinds of weather, but never failing to go where duty called. Whatever

success has attended the Department this year is largely due to him. He is a great favorite, and his desire to be everywhere present, and the exposure in making almost daily trips to distant parts of the state resulted in a severe spell of sickness, but your Department Commander and every comrade in the state is glad to know that he is on deck again. Any of us can be better spared, so for the good of the Order, we hope that the grim monster will spare Jake many years yet.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The Woman's Relief Corps is a splendid body of noble women. We found them ever ready to assist us in our work; in fact, in many instances, they were the main cause of our success. They never tire in good work, and the G. A. R. can never forget their labors. We have learned to pity a Post that has not this valuable auxiliary. Mrs. Taylor, the Department President, frequently consulted with us, and jointly and lovingly the two orders have worked together. Our interests are common and our aims exactly the same, viz: to care for the needy and distressed old soldier, his widow and orphans. All honor to the W. R. C.

SONS OF VETERANS.

It was our policy to encourage this organization. Everywhere we found them willing and anxious to help. They are proud of the rich legacy left them, and in the future the Sons of Veterans will have to make sure that their fathers did not fight in vain. The organization is on the increase, and in the near future it must make rapid strides. As our order decreases theirs will increase. Time will add to our laurels, and long after our order has passed away will our sons strive to keep our memories, our deeds and our graves green.

SOLDIER'S HOME.

The institution is one that we may well feel proud of, and I am quite sure that it is second to none in the land. Not only as Department Commander, but as an old soldier in common with all of you, we must thank the state for providing so liberally for our poor comrades. This home is beautifully situated, surrounded with beautiful groves, on the banks of the Mississippi river, and near the historic falls of Minnehaha. A veritable garden of Eden for the old soldier. It is well managed in every way and a credit to all. After a personal inspection, and after conversing with scores of the inmates, I am satisfied that no just cause of complaint can exist. Found order and neatness in every department, and the sick comrades in the well arranged and well ventilated hospital were receiving every attention possible. Unfortunately

a poor comrade was buried the day of my visit. It was a matter of satisfaction, however, to see that he had a minister to preach his funeral sermon, a fine coffin and a first-class hearse to bear him to his last resting place. This kind of a funeral and burial is provided for all who die there. Up to date 113 have died at the Home, 853 have been cared for, and at the present time 400 comrades are there; so the home is taxed to its utmost capacity.

Indeed comrades, this institution is a grand one, and we can never forget the state that provides so bountifully for the nation's defenders in their old age and time of need.

Minnesota has made ample provision, and no one who from '61 to '65 bared his breast to the storm of battle need go to the poor house or become a county charge.

MEMORIAL DAY.

This day was more generally observed than ever before in the history of the Department. In most of the cities all business for the time was suspended, and there was a greater absence of sports and festivities. It was a solemn, sad but sweet day to us. Truly to the old soldier Memorial Day is the most sacred one in the calendar. Your Department Commander attended memorial services at Rochester, where the ceremonies were both instructive and impressive. No grave was overlooked or forgotten. After the services at the cemetery, the comrades, families and friends assembled in the Opera House, which was filled to overflowing. Your Department Commander and others delivered appropriate addresses interspersed with music and songs suitable for the occasion. Not only does this day do great honor to our comrades gone before, but it teaches in the most impressive manner the lessons of patriotism so much needed at this time. Long after the last old soldier has passed away will Memorial Day be observed by our sons, our daughters and a loving people.

ENCAMPMENT AT PITTSBURG.

The Encampment at Pittsburg was a decided success. Minnesota "did herself proud," and as soon as we reached the city we received great praise for our handsome appearance, and the press the following morning announced that we made the best showing of any department on our march from the depot to our hotel. Pittsburg was gaily decorated and no pains spared by that city and the sister city, across the river, to make our stay both pleasant and profitable.

Pittsburg has a splendid war record, and her treatment of the G. A. R. has added to her laurels. Every effort was made for our comfort and entertainment.

We made a fine showing in the great parade and received the greatest applause all along the line. I never expect to feel prouder in this life, than when riding at the head of the Minnesota boys on that memorable day at Pittsburg.

The encampment proper was a success, too, and the splendid body of delegates would compare favorably with any parliament, congress, or any other body ever assembled. Its deliberations were wise and for the good of the order. We did not get our proper position in the line assigned us, but we will keep up the fight until victory is ours.

Time will not permit any further account of the encampment, but it was a success.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF FUND.

Two years ago this fund was quite large owing to the accumulation of several years, and it was thought best to reduce the tax one-half by which this fund is raised. It was successfully opposed in the legislature. Instead the sum of \$25,000 was taken from said fund and given to the building fund to erect a new wing to the Hospital. About this time a law was passed to turn into the general fund any amounts not needed, but by some mistake or difference in bookkeeping, the very large sum of \$72,000 was turned back into the treasury, which fact has practically abolished the fund so far as any good to be derived this winter is concerned. This accounts for the very large attendance at the Soldiers' Home which is full and running over. The loss of this fund has been a great hardship to the comrades, for owing to the hard times and the wholesale suspension of pensions, the demands have been very urgent. This law should be repealed at once, for it is more than probable that this fund will never increase to any great extent, for the comrades are getting older and more infirm, and less able to help themselves. This fund is intended for the needy comrade, and the people of this great state want it so applied.

I would suggest that a committee of five on legislation be appointed. They could not only urge the repeal of this law, but could consult with the trustees of the Soldier's Home in regard to any other desirable legislation. You will be pleased to learn that thirty to forty comrades are members of the present legislature, and I am sure that we will get fair treatment.

PENSIONS.

The pension roll is a roll of honor. The statement that whole committees were honeycombed with fraud, I believe to be false; at least it does not apply to this department. No true Grand Army man desires to see any person draw a pension illegally, nor

does he desire to see any comrade who is entitled to one, deprived of it without evidence and due process of law.

Thanks to the Grand Army of the Republic, in a measure, the policy of the Commissioner of Pensions in this respect has been changed. I hope the time is not far distant when this whole pension question will be settled forever, and the law made so plain that the simple reading will suffice. The law should be so worded that one officer could not interpret it one way and another in a still different manner. No unhallowed hand should stand between the nation's brave defender and his just rights. We ask nothing more and will accept nothing less. The pensioner is not a mendicant, but the small stipend that he receives is an obligation due him from a solemn promise made when the government was in peril. The patriotism of the American people is aroused on this subject, and woe unto the man or party that would deny him his just rights.

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT IN 1896.

I think that it is safe to announce that the National Encampment will be held in St. Paul in 1896.

We labored earnestly for 1895, but Louisville had the advantage from the start. A sentiment was all powerful that the Grand Army should once more cross the Ohio river. But our fight gave us great prestige and a big lead, and while we are reasonably sure, we should take no chances, and a strong delegation should be sent to Louisville and every effort made to make the victory sure. I would suggest that strong resolutions be adopted by the Encampment inviting the National Encampment here next year.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY.

The legislature has made Lincoln's birthday a holiday forever in this state. A wise and patriotic measure. To the old soldier no name in our history causes such a thrill of pleasure as the mention of the name of Abraham Lincoln. To us he was the grandest man that ever lived. He is our idol. We love, yea, almost worship him, for indeed he was Father Abraham to all of us.

I would suggest that the anniversary of his birth be celebrated in our Post meetings as long as there is a Post left in our Department, and that the necessary steps be taken by this Encampment to inaugurate such a movement.

FINANCES.

We have guarded sacredly the finances of the Order. Every cent expended has been accounted for. We have, as an order, lived within our means and in no case have we expended more

than the amounts allowed by the council of administration, and in many instances have fallen considerably below them.

The sum allowed the Department for field work was turned over entire to Adjutant General Mertz for his own expenses, and the same is fully and minutely accounted for by him. I think that we can truthfully say that if our administration has not been brilliant that it has been business-like.

In view of the fact that by hard work and exposure the Adjutant General made himself sick, and as a result had a large doctor bill to pay, I would recommend that he be allowed one hundred dollars additional salary for the year just closed.

CONCLUSION.

In bidding you farewell I do so with the earnest desire that this Department that we all loved so well, will prosper. I will not cease in my labors for the good of the Grand Army, but will fight just as valiantly in the trenches as if in command. I am proud of my comrades. In every city and village I found them holding positions of honor and trust and in no case were they unfaithful to them. Day by day my love for them intensifies. We are a band of brothers. We are bound together by indissoluble ties. If in turn I can have your love and esteem I am fully repaid for my labors. May God in His infinite wisdom guide and guard us all.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Department Commander.

REPORT OF SENIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, A. H. REED.

Commander and Comrades:

My report will necessarily be brief. We have in our Department Commander Van Sant, and his Adjutant Mertz, a complete team who have not required any great amount of help, and as far as I was concerned it was very lucky that it was so. I must confess that I have not been able, or I have not given them the help and aid that I would have been glad to. I am here ready and willing to apologize for all delinquencies.

I shall not go further and tell you the number of miles I have traveled and the Posts I have visited because they have been few, but I want to thank the comrades of this Department for the uniform courtesy they have given me and for the honor they done me in electing me Senior Vice Commander.

REPORT OF JUNIOR VICE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, C. W. MCKAY.

Comrades of the Department of Minnesota:

Like my superior officer, the Senior Vice Commander, my report will be brief. I will detain you but a minute.

It is twelve months since I was honored by this Department by being elected Junior Vice Commander. In that time I have visited twenty-six Posts. By the Department Commander of the State I was given the northern part. I have attended nine campfires, been present at two Department Encampments, the National Encampment and three Memorial Services. In this work I have traveled over 8,000 miles and have met with uniform courtesy everywhere. I want to thank the comrades of the northern part of the state, and all parts, for the uniform courtesy I have received. In the northern part of the state two Posts are delinquent, the other Posts are in a flourishing condition. I would recommend that whoever may be the officers for the coming year they will make it their duty to see that the work in the field is kept up, for there is no doubt that it is a great incentive to the boys, they like to see the department officers whoever they may be. I thank you all for the honor you have conferred upon me twelve months ago, and retire with a feeling of love and comradeship for every member of the Department of Minnesota.

REPORT OF ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL,
J. K. MERTZ.

Sam. R. Van Sant, Department Commander:

COMRADE: In compliance with the requirements of my office, I have the honor to submit for your information my report of the business of this office and the condition of this Department during the past year:

OUR REPRESENTATION AT LAST ENCAMPMENT.

Department Officers voting	14
Past Department Officers voting	12
Past Post Commanders voting	280
Post Commanders and Delegates voting	279
Total number of votes	585

MEMBERSHIP, FIRST TERM, 1894.

Total membership in good standing Dec. 31, 1893 ...	8037
Gained by Muster In.....	230
" Transfer.....	106
" Re-instatement	137
Total Gain	473
Aggregate	8510

LOSS, FIRST TERM, 1894.

Loss by Death.....	74
" Honorable Discharge.....	20
" Transfer	98
" Suspension	303
" Dishonorable Discharge	3
" Delinquent Reports.....	143
Total Loss	641
Number remaining in good standing June 30, 1894...	7869

MEMBERSHIP, SECOND TERM, 1894.

Remaining in good standing June 30, 1894	7869
Gained by Muster In.....	183
" Transfer.....	56
" Re-instatement	92
" Delinquent Reports	124
Total Gain	455
Aggregate	8324

LOSS, SECOND TERM, 1894.

Loss by Death	64
" Honorable Discharge.....	19
" Transfer	66
" Suspension	340
" Delinquent Reports.....	55
Total Loss	554

Number remaining in good standing Dec. 31, 1894...	7780
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To this add number remaining suspended Dec. 31, 1894.....

900

Members by delinquent reports	55
These are still members of the Order and gives a grand total membership of.....	955

The following Posts have been mustered and re-instated during the year:

Edward S. Kellogg Post No. 179, February 27, Hewitt.

R. B. Hayes Post No. 144, April 15, Duluth.

M. J. Paine Post No. 56, June 23, Staples.

Booen Post No. 184, July 28, Glenville.

A. L. Darling Post No. 187, August 15, Brownsville.

Eagle Post No. 180, October 20, Fosston.

The following Posts are delinquent at this date:

F. Fairchild Post No. 152, Dawson, 2d Term.

Wilkin Post No. 176, Breckenridge, 1st and 2d Term.

David Oakes Post No. 174, Montgomery, 2d Term.

The following Post has surrendered its charter during the year:

Van Ransalaer Post No. 140, Melrose.

While there has been a healthy gain of 928 in membership, the number of deaths, 138, and the large number of suspensions, 643, and 198 from delinquent reports have more than offset the gain, leaving an apparent loss of 257. The question of suspensions is becoming a vital one to the life of our Order, and the comrade who shall devise some practical plan whereby this class of comrades can be saved to the Order will surely immortalize himself. Many Posts are carrying from year to year a large list of suspended members, these should be restored if possible; if any are worthy but unable to pay, their dues should be remitted, all others who can pay and will not should be dropped. Any loss by delinquent reports is caused by the negligence of Post officers in failing to forward their reports to headquarters. For which, while there is no excuse, not only do the comrades of their Post, but every comrade in the Department suffers through the negligence of a few Post officers in failing to fulfill the duties which they assumed when they took the oath and obligation of office. Post Adjutants and Quartermasters should be selected for their fitness and ability and when their duties are well learned should be retained in office year after year, or just as long as they can be induced to fill the offices.

The record of mail matter from this office was as follows:

Orders mailed, National.....	3750
" " Department	4010
Circular Letters	320
Department Journals	420
National Journals.....	43
Department Roster	900
Report Blanks of Adjutant, Quartermaster, Inspector, Surgeon, Chaplain and Roll of the Dead.....	2457
Letters written	2092
" " and copied	157
Commissions mailed	114
Inspection Reports mailed to Department Inspector.....	29
Surgeon Reports mailed to Medical Director.....	30
Dispensations granted	27
Total pieces of mail matter.....	14349

The business of this office is increasing yearly and the correspondence is something formidable. Much of this might be saved if the Rules and Regulations and the Blue Book were more frequently consulted, thereby saving expenses such as postage to the Department.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following is a condensed statement of the cash receipts of this office for the past year:

Per capita tax, first term, 1894, on 7869 members	\$1,573.80
" " " second term, 1894, on 7780 members.....	1,556.00
From all other sources, delinquent reports, etc.....	45.00
" Charter and Muster Fee.....	60.00
Total	\$3,234.80

All of which has been paid over to the Assistant Quartermaster General. An itemized statement has been submitted to the Council of Administration who will make a report on the same.

FIELD WORK.

I am glad to say that I have been able to perform considerable field work again this year. I have traveled in all about 17,000 miles visiting Posts, attending camp-fires and District Encampments. I would again here suggest to the officers of the District Encampments that in the future they select their dates for holding the encampments so as not to conflict with each other, thereby enabling the Department Officers to be able to attend each and every one, for I am now more convinced than ever that more good work can be accomplished at these District Encampments than at any other time during the year for the good of the Order. I am also convinced that it is field work that is needed in this Department as well as office work, only a great deal more so hereafter, for the preservation of the Order. There are still about 8,000 or 9,000 ex-soldiers residing within the borders of this state that are not members of the Grand Army of the Republic, there are several reasons for this, but the principal reason is that many reside too far and remote from places where Posts are located, they are anxious to become members and wear the little bronze button. I have met with comrades during my visits to Posts within the past two years who have come twenty and twenty-five miles to meet with their comrades, they would be more than happy if they could be a member of some Post. In this connection I will say that I have consulted with a great many comrades throughout the Department with regards to establishing Picket Out Posts or Videttes in sparsely settled districts too far away from established

Posts for comrades to attend their Post meetings. I believe if that was done a large number of veterans who yet remain outside of our Order, by reason of their great distance from any Post, would be brought into the comradeship of our Order. To this end I would recommend that this Encampment take up the subject of Organization of Pickets, and appoint a committee to formulate a plan and submit its report at the next Annual Encampment. Let this Department be one of the first in this movement, for I believe it is a matter of great importance to a large number of veterans of the war who desire to march shoulder to shoulder with their comrades in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic, as they did during the war, if the opportunity is only given them to do so.

THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT AT PITTSBURGH.

The whole world knows that the Encampment was a grand success. I think great credit is due to the good loyal citizens and our comrades of Pittsburgh and Alleghany City for the hearty and loyal manner with which they welcomed and entertained the Grand Army of the Republic, the Woman's Relief Corps and friends during the Encampment. To Col. Moody Post No. 155, Department of Pennsylvania, at Pittsburgh, are due the fraternal thanks of this Department for the comradeship they bestowed on their comrades from Minnesota in receiving the delegation upon its arrival in Pittsburgh with the Post and Drum Corps, and escorting the delegation to the hotel where headquarters were established.

Commander, in surrendering the office with which you have by your appointment honored me, I desire to express my sincere thanks for your personal kindness and appreciations of my efforts. My acknowledgements are due for your steadfast support, timely advice and wise counsel. Although the past year has been one of the busiest of my life, it carried with it many pleasant recollections and associations never to be forgotten. During my two terms as Assistant Adjutant General, I have received the most courteous and kind treatment from the comrades of this Department; my thanks are due to all and I bid them all God Speed. To the members of the official staff I desire to express my heartfelt thanks for the uniform kindness shown to me. In laying aside my insignia of A. A. G., and saying good-bye, it is my sincere hope that my successor may receive the same hearty support, and that his official relations with all comrades may be as pleasant as mine have been.

I remain in F., C. & L.,

J. K. MERTZ,
Assistant Adjutant General.



J.H. Merz, Jr.

ABSTRACT OF POST RETURNS.

One-half the total will give the average number in good standing during the year. Multiply by twenty for the amount of *per capita* tax paid by each Post during the year.

No. of Post.	Members in Good Standing. First Term.	Members in Good Standing. Second Term.	Total.	No. of Post.	Members in Good Standing. First Term.	Members in Good Standing. Second Term.	Total.	No. of Post.	Members in Good Standing. First Term.	Members in Good Standing. Second Term.	Total.
1	86	75	161	41	14	38	81	117	117	234	
2	120	123	243	42	15	34	82	27	27	54	
3	95	101	199	43	32	64	83	88	87	175	
4	318	332	650	44	103	183	84	66	66	132	
5	103	92	195	45	113	127	240	85	60	50	110
6	9	9	46	15	14	29	86	23	22	45	
7	85	86	171	47	57	45	102	87	54	56	110
8	126	98	224	48	52	48	100	88	27	27	54
9	17	29	46	49	31	30	61	89	45	44	89
10	41	40	81	50	46	45	91	90	53	53	106
11	20	20	40	51	102	102	204	91	26	25	51
12	36	36	72	52	49	51	100	92	40	39	79
13	97	98	195	53	19	20	39	93	51	44	95
14	32	25	57	54	66	55	121	94	30	30	60
15	44	44	88	55	25	15	40	95	83	87	170
16	11	11	22	56	14	14	28	96	56	57	113
17	24	23	47	57	28	28	56	97	19	19	38
18	56	60	116	58	22	21	43	98	25	22	47
19	174	159	333	59	32	31	63	99	31	32	63
20	84	73	157	60	21	25	46	100	31	30	61
21	255	251	506	61	22	24	46	101	10	10	20
22	110	101	211	62	28	30	58	102	47	47	94
23	47	46	93	63	40	40	80	103	34	32	66
24	26	26	64	64	32	32	64	104	18	20	38
25	17	17	34	65	29	25	54	105	30	28	58
26	14	13	27	66	88	91	179	106	23	23	46
27	56	55	111	67	59	56	115	107	44	41	85
28	69	68	137	68	48	49	97	108	38	42	80
29	32	32	64	69	51	56	107	109	21	21	42
30	26	32	58	70	15	16	31	110	21	21	42
31	19	19	38	71	24	25	49	111	29	33	62
32	49	50	99	72	80	85	165	112	35	34	69
33	82	82	164	73	79	64	143	113	30	30	60
34	81	84	165	74	48	48	96	114	14	16	30
35	114	113	247	75	101	96	197	115	11	11	11
36	24	21	45	76	21	20	41	116	26	24	50
37	96	90	186	77	19	18	37	117	23	26	49
38	14	12	26	78	18	18	36	118	21	21	42
39	22	20	42	79	40	40	80	119	99	95	194
40	26	36	72	80	18	18	36	120	25	26	51
	2725	2702	5437		1716	1672	3388		1540	1535	3075

ABSTRACT OF POST RETURNS.

One-half the total will give the average number in good standing during the year. Multiply by twenty for the amount of *per capita* tax paid by each Post during the year.

No. of Post.	Members in Good Standing, First Term.	Members in Good Standing, Second Term.	Total.	No. of Post.	Members in Good Standing, First Term.	Members in Good Standing, Second Term.	Total.
121	32	34	66	161	12	11	23
122	74	74	148	162	22	19	41
123	93	87	180	163	69	71	140
124	16	12	28	164	18	20	38
125	27	27	54	165	27	28	55
126	136	108	244	166	20	19	39
127	20	20	40	167	28	28	56
128	68	69	137	168	16	14	30
129	19	19	38	169	24	24	48
130	38	33	71	170	22	19	41
131	38	36	74	171	38	24	62
132	14	15	29	172	16	16	32
133	23	23	46	173	13	13	26
134	63	60	123	174	14		14
135	15	15	30	175	13	25	38
136	33	33	176				
137	20	20	40	177	16	16	32
138	28	28	56	178	30	19	39
139	11	11	22	179	13	15	28
140	18		18	180		19	19
141	27	27	54	181	22	22	44
142	15	19	34	182	16	15	31
143	69	69	138	183	27	30	57
144	26	27	53	184		16	16
145	26	25	51	185	22	19	41
146	71	70	141	186	22	22	44
147	32	35	67	187		15	15
148	17	13	30	188	25	25	50
149	20	20	40	189	32	30	62
150	24	24	48				
151	26	23	49		567	594	1161
152							
153	28	28	56				
154	23	23	46				
155	38	40	78				
156	29	27	56				
157	19	19	38		2735		2702
158	26	27	53		1716		1672
159	16	13	29		1540		1535
160	26	21	50		1311		1277
					567		594
	1311	1277	2588		7869		7780

REPORT OF ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL,
E. N. LEAVENS.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.:

COMRADE: I have the honor to herewith submit my annual report of the receipts and disbursements of my office for the past year.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on Hand.....	\$5,111.47
Supplies Sold.....	424.85
Muster Fees.....	60.00
Per Capita Tax.....	3,174.80
Interest on Deposits { Minneapolis, \$1,785.60 St. Paul, 2,000.00 }.....	134.09

	\$8,905.21

DISBURSEMENTS.

Current Expenses	\$1,365.39
Postage	183.94
Printing.....	422.07
Rent, headquarters	195.00
Inspection.....	34.52
Expense of Mustering Posts	25.05
Supplies Purchased.....	241.30
Per Capita Tax to National Headquarters	198.38
Expenses at Department Encampment.....	232.81
Expenses at National Encampment	209.90
Testimonial, Vote of Encampment '91	100.00
Mileage	514.97

	\$3,723.33
Balance on Hand.....	\$5,181.88

Respectfully submitted in F., C. & L.,

E. N. LEAVENS,
Assistant Quartermaster General.

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

To the Department Encampment, G. A. R.:

The Council of Administration respectfully reports that after a careful inspection of the financial affairs of the Department, we find everything in a satisfactory condition. Due economy has been practiced during the past year, resulting in a saving in several directions. The books and papers of the Assistant Adjutant General and Assistant Quartermaster General have been properly kept and their reports are found to be correct. Much credit is due them for their painstaking care and for the facilities placed at our disposal for a thorough investigation. Vouchers and receipts are on file for all expenditures. Their bonds were filed and duly approved by us early in the year. The following is a correct statement of the finances and property of this Department at the present time:

The funds on hand a year ago were deposited in Germania Bank, St. Paul, \$3,785.60; cash, \$1,325.87. Total, \$5,111.47

The receipts for the year have been:

Per capita tax, 1st term.....	\$1,573.80
Per capita tax, 2d term.....	1,556.00
Per capita tax, arrears	45.00
Charter fees, 6 Posts, (Muster fees donated)...	60.00
Interest received on deposits.....	134.09
Supplies sold by Asst. Quartermaster Gen'l...	424.85
	<hr/>
	\$3,793.74
Total.....	\$8,905.21

The expenses of the year have been:

Salary of J. K. Mertz, Asst. Adjutant General 13 months, to March 1.....	\$ 866.67
Salary of E. N. Leavens, Asst. Quar. Gen'l, 13 months, to March 1.....	300.00
Rent, 13 months, to March 1.....	195.00
Per capita tax to National Encampment.	198.38
Supplies purchased by Asst. Q. M. Gen'l.....	241.30
Printing 500 Journals and 1,000 Rosters of Posts	290.07
Other printing.....	132.00
Expenses mustering new Posts.....	25.05
Stenographer, last year.....	83.00
Mileage to delegates, 1894.....	514.97
Postage.....	183.94
General Sherman Memorial of two years ago..	100.00
Dept. Com. for Minn. Hdqrs., at Pittsburg....	100.00
Dept. Com. and Asst. Adj. Gen'l, R. R., hotel, etc., at Pittsburg.....	74.90
Dept. Com. for Drum Corps, at Pittsburg.....	25.00
Dept. Com. for expenses self and Asst. Adj. Gen'l in Minnesota.....	150.00
Inspecting Posts.....	34.52
Sundries	208.83
	<hr/>
	\$3,723.33
Balance on hand.....	\$5,181.88

Of this balance \$3,785.60 is on deposit at 3 per cent. interest; \$2,000 in Germania Bank of St. Paul, from Feb. 26, 1895, and \$1,785.60 in the Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank of Minneapolis, with interest paid to January 1st, 1895. The certificates for these deposits have been exhibited to us, also certificates of deposit for \$1,000 of the balance.

The only liabilities are for testimonial to Past Department Commander Smith, and Chaplain's postage; with these paid there would be on hand about \$30 less than at the beginning of the year.

SUPPLY ACCOUNT.

Supplies in hands of Asst. Quar. Mast. Gen'l a year ago..	\$ 414.90
Supplies purchased by Asst. Quar. Mast. Gen'l, during the year.....	241.30
	<hr/>
	\$ 656.20
Sales by Asst. Quar. Mast. Gen'l, past year.	424.85
Value of supplies now in his hand.....	394.65
	<hr/>
	\$ 819.50
Profit on Sales.....	\$ 163.30

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS MONTGOMERY,
R. C. LIVINGSTON,
J. M. D. CRAFT,
PERRY STARKWEATHER,
L. W. COLLINS.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN, HENRY G. BILBIE.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant General, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.:

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: For the fourth time the distinguished honor is afforded me of presenting a report as Department Chaplain to this Encampment.

It affords me great pleasure to say that there has been this year more hearty and prompt co-operation with the chaplain, in the matter of securing the items from the various Posts for his report, than ever before. All but 27 of the Posts reported in reply to the first appeal, and as the delinquents were mostly among the smaller Posts in the Department, it was not deemed advisable to make the extra expense of further correspondence. The estimate of numbers taking part in various exercises is smaller than last year, and the number of graves decorated is only 4,019 as compared with 5,670 last year. Some difficulty arises in explaining this diminished number, but it can partly be explained from the

fact that several of the Posts (some of them the larger ones) strangely omitted this item from their returns.

Judging from the enthusiasm with which the proceedings of Memorial Day was described, we are compelled to consider the interest of the public in the cause for which our organization exists, as decidedly on the increase. 77 of the number of Posts reporting say in substance that all business was suspended during the whole or part of the day. One reporter declares his the "greatest memorial celebration in the history of the state." Another that the "whole community observed the day without games." Another that "the crowd was too large for the town." But more gratifying than almost any other feature of the reports is that so many declared that all sport was abandoned. In several instances this was due to proclamation of the mayor. In other cases through the kind utterances of local editors, and in others due to the combined efforts of the members of the Posts. This is cause for rejoicing, and should encourage us to more hearty work in this direction in the future.

Would it not be desirable for each Post to appoint a committee to solicit such action from mayors and village presidents, and similar articles in all the papers shortly before Memorial Day.

It is gratifying to be able to report that an object for which your Chaplain has persistently worked since his first election has been secured, viz.: uniform reports from Department Chaplains throughout the organization, and the issuance of uniform blanks from National headquarters to assist in the collection of such statistics. Chaplain-in-chief Lowell is in my opinion entitled to the principal credit for this desirable result.

An innovation in the right direction has occurred this year (as far as known to me for the first time); a woman, Miss May Baker, delivered the address on memorial day, and in several other instances women spoke on this occasion. Your chaplain hopes that this innovation may become the established practice. And why not? They suffered more keenly at home than we in the front during the war; and they have shared our hardships and our joys ever since. They have organized into bands for our relief, and are ever loyal to the soldier and the flag. Are they not equally with ourselves entitled to such honor as our order can confer?

To many of our Order another year of sorrow has passed forever; to all of us the opportunities for usefulness have been diminished by another year. Our seed-time is nearly over; may our harvest be full of joy forever.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY G. BILBIE,

Department Chaplain.

And soon these glad re-unions here
 Will be forever past;
 The broken ranks that close the rear
 Will cross the ford at last;
 But on the world's illustrious page
 Of heroes tried and true
 Will live enshrined from age to age
 The glorious boys in blue.

ROLL OF THE DEAD, 1894.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
1	Robert Clifford	Private	A.	1st Me.	49.	April —	Heart disease.
1	James Gaskell	1st Sergt.	—	45th Ill. Infy.	70.	April 4th	Poisoned.
1	Edward Yerks	Private	D.	2d Wis. Cav.	46.	January 28th	Consumption.
2	John T. Kimball	Private	D.	6th Minn. Infy.	52.	March 9th	General debility.
3	Louis M. Ashley	Sergeant	F.	1st Minn. H. A.	46.	August 23d	Hemorrhage of stomach.
4	Charles K. Hagy	Private	K.	6th Pa. Cav.	50.	January 3d	Unknown.
4	John Cleaton	Private	D.	1st Minn.	61.	November 30th	Unknown.
4	Hans Halvorson	Private	D.	2d Wis. Cav.	61.	April 14th	Unknown.
4	Charles Courtney	Asst. Mate	—	U. S. Navy	65.	October 23d	Unknown.
4	Reuben C. Benton	Lieut. Col.	—	11th Vt. Infy.	—	—	Unknown.
5	G. J. Barden	Private	E.	10th Minn. Infy.	50.	November 6th	Cancer.
5	Henry A. House	Private	F.	4th Minn. Infy.	50.	January 18th, '95	Unknown.
7	C. D. Blakesley	Private	H.	143d Ohio Infy.	—	May 11th, '94	Consumption.
8	David Imbrue	Private	K.	10th Pa. R. V. C.	—	May 6th	Heart disease.
8	Andrew Holzheimer	Private	A.	10th N. Y. Infy.	—	February	Unknown.
13	E. P. Martin	Capt. & Q. M.	F.	5th Ill. Cav.	63.	August 16th	Unknown.
14	Samuel E. Parker	Private	C.	1st Me. Cav.	59.	January 12th	Heart failure.

Continued on pages 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
14	Stephen E. McNeil..	Private.....	I	7th Me. Inf'y.....	50	Dec. 21st	Rupture blood vessel.
15	Bernard Ford.....	Private.....	H	3d Wis. Cav.....	61	April 21st	Heart disease.
15	D. W. Coulthard.....	Private.....	—	2d Minn. L. A.....	55	December 3d	Dropsey.
18	Two deaths reported by Adjutant first term, no names, no record.						
19	I. M. Chapin.....	Private	B	8th Minn. Inf'y.....	50	March	Consumption.
19	John Williams.....	Private	A	106th N. Y. Inf'y.....	60	April 2d	Bright's disease.
19	Mathew M. Hynson.....	Private	G	10th Minn. Inf'y.....	60	October 29th	Unknown.
19	Marshall Dullard.....	Private	G	32d Wis.	87	November 28th	Unknown.
19	John Naigle	Private	K	2d Minn. Cav.....	59	December 29th	Unknown.
20	John Ross.....	Private	H	16th Wis. Inf'y.....	60	September	Burned to death in the forest fire at Hinckley.
21	John Andrews	Private	I	5th Ill. Cav.....	54	February 2d	Accidental shooting.
21	Nicholas Gillard.....	Corporal	E	39th U.S.C. Inf'y.....	49	August 11th	Apoplexy.
21	John H. Judd	Private	A	27th Mass. Inf'y.....	54	September 11th	Pneumonia.
21	J. H. Murphy	Surgeon	D	4th Minn. Inf'y.....	50	February 2d	Cancer.
21	Charles D. Parker	Corporal	D	113th Ohio Inf'y.....	59	September 29th	Consumption.
21	J. J. Riddle	Private.....	—	127th N. Y. Inf'y.....	63	June 9th	General debility.
21	W. H. H. Taylor	Colonel.....	5th Ohio Inf'y.....	79	January 29th	General debility.	
21	Charles F. Yeager	Asst. Eng.....	U. S. Navy.....	52	August 10th	Pneumonia.	
22	Daniel E. Pickett	Private	A	146th Ill. Inf'y.....	49	April 27th	Unknown.
22	A. C. Douglas	Private	E	115th Ill. Inf'y.....	—	November 28th	Typhoid fever.
23	Hiram C. Bullis	Private	I	15th N. Y. Inf'y.....	61	October 20th	Paralysis.
23	Wm. R. Hunn	Private	A	122d N. Y. Inf'y.....	57	October 13th	Paralysis.
23	J. D. Hawkins	Private	D	11th Minn. Inf'y.....	49	July 5th	Paralysis.
23	Samuel B. Lyman	Private	K	22d U. S. R. C.....	60	May 18th	Heart failure. Member of Department of Iowa.
26	E. P. Whicher	Private	H	21st	72	January 9th	Injury by fall.
26	G. L. Taplin	Private	B	46th	55	April 1st	Consumption.
27	Preston Martin	Private	F	10th Minn. Inf'y.....	74	July 4th	General debility.
28	William Gross	Private	C	25th N. Y. Inf'y.....	73	January 2d	Rheumatism.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
28	John Reimess	Private	H	144th Ill. Inf'y	53	February	Unknown.
29	G. V. Morgan	Sergeant	B	58th Ill. Inf'y	50	May 19th	Unknown.
30	Lyman Whipple	Private	C	32d Wis. Inf'y	78	June 7th	General debility.
31	William Canfield	Private	C	10th Minn. Inf'y	50	March 16th	Disease of liver.
31	Orlanda Allison	Private	A	50th Ill. Inf'y	—	February 17th	Heart disease.
32	Solomon Dartt	Private	A	5th Minn. Inf'y	63	September 28th	General debility.
32	Garland Fleener	Private	B	3d Ind.	69	October 8th	General debility.
34	George M. Rose	Sergeant	G	6th U. S. Cav	—	April 18th	Disease of lungs.
35	Jerome B. Hatch	1st Lieut.	C	1st Vt. Cav.	52	February 6th	Consumption.
35	J. B. Atkinson	Captain	H	1st Minn. H. A.	74	September 20th	Paralysis.
35	Michael Roberts	Private	B	90th Ill. Inf'y	64	April 20th	Consumption.
36	Henry Butter	Sergeant	I	16th Ill. Cav.	73	April 2d	Cancer.
37	Patrick Gardner	Captain	E	1st Minn. Cav	—	—	—
37	James S. Westlake	Private	K	7th Minn. Inf'y	—	—	—
37	John M. Oleson	Sergeant	K	2d Minn. Inf'y	—	—	—
37	John Schmidt	Private	K	1st Minn. Cav	—	—	—
39	W. H. Allen	Private	H	10th Pa.	54	February 3d	Unknown.
40	J. C. Parker	1st Lieut.	G	58th Ill. Inf'y	58	April 18th	Heart disease.
41	James M. Turman	Sergeant	C	14th Ken. Inf'y	53	April	Consumption.
41	Alexander Pfaff	Private	M	—	65	September 4th	General debility.
41	John Vosburgh	Private	K	3d Minn. Inf'y	72	April 8th	Unknown.
44	W. K. Tattersall	Captain	K	6th Minn. Inf'y	80	April 18th	Unknown.
45	Thomas C. Bridges	Private	I	20th Me. Inf'y	54	January 9th	Consumption.
45	Parchal P. Rouse	1st Lieut.	M	3d Wis. Cav	64	June 1st	Consumption.
45	Leonard Magnus	Captain	K	29th N. Y. Inf'y	65	October 24th	Unknown.
46	Albert Campbell	Captain	B	10th Conn. Inf'y	58	July 16th	Abcess of brain.
49	Abraham E. Prosser	Private	H	2d Minn. Inf'y	61	June 28th	Consumption.
49	Edwin Shave	Corporal	B	1st Minn. Inf'y	59	October 30th	Unknown.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
50	Benjamin F. Cole	Private	H.	2d Minn. Infy.	—	January 9th	Heart disease.
50	C. L. Snyder	1st Lieut.	B.	4th Minn. Infy.	—	August 10th	Heart disease.
50	Christopher Sindorf	Teamster	A.	3d Iowa	53	January 17th	Pneumonia.
52	Joseph H. Stowell	Private	A.	6th Me. Infy.	48	Dec. 19th	Pneumonia.
54	Moses Ayers	Private	H.	1st Minn. H. Art.	—	—	Dropsy.
58	Warren Warner	Private	K.	1st Minn.	72	February 16th	General debility.
59	Simon Moore	Corporal	F.	1st Minn. Rang.	59	November 16th	Hemorrhage.
66	Geo. C. Allen	Private	D.	18th Pa.	54	January	Injured by being run over by oil wagon.
66	G. W. Varco	Private	B.	2d Minn.	48	January	Bright's disease.
66	W. F. Sutherland	Private	B.	U. S. Engineers	49	May 9th	Consumption.
67	Charles Safer	Sergeant	G.	8th Mich. Cav.	74	May 13th	General debility.
67	S. S. Joy	Lieutenant	G.	51st Mass.	—	June 6th	Heart disease.
68	J. N. Conner	Private	E.	32d Iowa Infy.	—	July 30th	Cancer.
70	J. C. Edwards	Private	C.	1st Minn. M. R.	51	May 1st	Bright's disease.
73	E. S. Munger	Private	B.	9th Minn. Infy.	74	January 16th	General debility.
73	Daniel Wood	Private	K.	9th Me. Infy.	49	June 22d	Inflammation of stomach.
73	Homer Earle	Private	C.	N. Y. Cav.	53	September 7th	Heart Disease.
75	Ole Oskey	Private	F.	6th Minn. Infy.	57	February 6th	Cancer.
75	Joshua Allyn	Private	A.	1st Minn.	63	March 31st	Hernia.
75	Peter Hanson	Private	B.	6th Wis. Infy.	65	August 1st	Unknown.
76	H. S. Richardson	Sergeant	B.	50th N.Y. Eng.	65	January 8th	General debility.
79	Joseph McMutry	Corporal	F.	16th Wis. Infy.	62	July 6th	Phthisis pulmonalis.
81	Geo. H. Herrach	Sergeant	G.	7th Minn. Infy.	72	January 20th	Disease of liver.
82	Abraham L. Jackson	Sergeant	G.	7th Minn. Infy.	—	Dec. 30th	Chronic bronchitis.
82	Wm. H. Vankleck	Com. Serg't.	—	11th Minn. Infy.	—	October 6th	Disease of liver.
82	Alceaus Drummond	Private	—	1st Mich. Cav.	—	October 20th	Heart disease.
83	Salvatuse Rainieri	Private	K.	20th Conn. Infy.	60	October 20th	Heart disease.
83	William Kenyon	Private	I.	1st Minn. H. Art.	61	September	Heart disease.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
84	H. M. Wood	Corporal	H.	1st Minn. H.	Art. 59	October 7th	Unknown.
86	William May	Private	H.	7th Minn. Infy.	65	October 21st	Disease of lungs.
87	B. F. Titcomb	Private	D.	46th Wis. Infy.	44	Dec. 16th, '93	Suicide.
87	Michael Donahue	Private	F.	2d Bat. Minn. Cav	58	June	Dis. of liver and stomach.
89	Oren T. Hayes	1st Lieut.	H.	1st Minn. Infy.	65	March 20th	Rheumatism & paralysis.
89	Timothy Leonard	Major	H.	1st Regt. Minn. M. Rangers	65	July 20th	Disease of stomach.
90	Chas. S. Spendley	Corporal	G.	5th Minn. Infy.	62	July 20th	Disease of stomach.
90	William Campin	Private	E.	1st Minn. H. Art.	70	May 28th	Heart disease.
90	Edward J. Lacy	Private	A.	28th Wis. Infy.	53	July 30th	Consumption.
91	Jacob Etzell	Private	D.	8th Minn. Infy.	83	November 10th	Congestion of bowels.
93	A. J. Lawrence	2d Lieut.	H.	21st Pa. Vol.	68	January	Ch. diarrhoea and dropsy.
96	E. B. Robinson	Private	A.	48th Mo. Vol.	47	July 17th	Accidental.
103	Charles Buckman	1st Lieut.	H.	Ia. Vol. Infy.	75	September 26th	Chronic diarrhoea.
104	Peter Mohr	Private	I.	30th Wis. Infy.	68	September 2d	Heart disease.
108	Hugh J. Owens	Captain	B.	45th Wis. Infy.	—	December 26th	Unknown.
112	Samuel N. Pavitt	Private	F.	1st Minn. H. Art.	—	March 4th	Disease of lungs.
115	Ole Olson Hillsted	Private	B.	6th Minn. Infy.	64	July 18th	Rheumatism.
117	John Leonard	Private	E.	18th Wis. Infy.	70	October 22d	Heart and lung diseases.
118	Thomas Rafferty	Private	D.	Brackett's Batt.	—	January 7th	Pneumonia.
119	R. B. Satterlee	Private	E.	2d W. Va. Cav	42	August 23d	Heart disease.
119	A.C. Pray	S. Maj.	K.	16th Wis. Infy.	53	March	Unknown.
119	J. W. Truesdell	Private	—	20th Me. Infy.	53	September 30th	Accidental.
121	Robert C. Morgan	Private	H.	4th Pa. R. V. C.	45	October 21	Apoplexy.
122	Jacob Weybright	Corporal	G.	15th N. Y. Eng.	52	September 10th	Cancer of stomach.
122	W. H. Pease	Private	K.	8th Col. Infy.	57	May 26th	Unknown.
123	J. J. Crist	Private	A.	1st Minn. Batt.	47	May 8th	Heart disease.
123	John Huffellen	Private	B.	Brackett's B. Cv.	70	February 2d, '95	Heart disease.
123	A. J. Bornstad	Private	D.	6th Minn. Infy.	68	August 25th	Unknown.
125			B.	2d Minn. Cav	54	May 12th	Cancer.

Post	Name	Rank	Co.	Regiment	Age	Date of Death	Cause of Death
			A.	1st Del.	62	September 11th	Unknown.
128	Thomas B. Hizar	Captain					
129	John O. Bandy	...	I	5th Minn. Infy	—	Dec. 29th	'93..... General debility.
130	John Gregory	Private	B.	15th Wis. Infy	69	July 16th	'64..... Wound in leg & gen'l deb.
130	John Gilbertson	Private	A.	2d Minn.	—	December 7th	..... Pneumonia.
130	E. Kuinyon	Private	I.	18th Wis. Infy	70	November 7th	..... Chr. diarr. & rheumatism.
131	Wm. A. Coleman	Capt.	B.	1st Neb.	65	December 9th	..... Chronic bronchitis.
131	Henry Boerner	Private	G.	2d Minn. Cav	—	April 17th	..... Paralysis.
134	John B. Scherer	Private	C.	29th Wis. Infy	79	September 1st	..... Burned to death in the great forest fire.
137	Henry B. Hoffman	Private	I.	1st Minn. H. Art.	—	June 1st	..... Disease of lungs.
141	Melville G. Pixley	Private	—	2d Minn. Batt'y	61	March 3d	..... Heart Disease.
142	Wm. H. Shaw	Corporal	—	2d Minn.	—		
143	Frank Koelman	Private	D.	2d Minn.	69	July	..... Rheumatism.
146	Emmanuel Cameron	Private	—	Minn. M. Rang	—	March 27th	..... Heart disease.
150	M. T. Krinkey	Private	F.	10th Minn.	83	October 27th	..... Heart disease.
152	George Rigler	Private	G.	2d Minn. Infy	65	October 10th	..... Pneumonia.
156	Paul Peterson	Private	—	8th Minn. Infy	52	October 4th	..... Heart disease.
161	Ichabod H. Tower	Private	R.	4th Minn. Infy	67	December 19th	..... Heart disease.
163	Frank Mayer	Corporal	K.	1st Minn. M. R	—	Dec. 7th	..... Heart disease.
165	William Heitzig	Private	E.	27th Iowa	72	November 13th	..... Congestion of lungs.
166	N. W. Ellis	Private	H.	44th Wis. Infy	80	Not known	..... Died in Mo.
181	J. T. Fenstermacher	Private	—	—			
183	L. Gregg	Corporal	—	46th Regiment	70	July 25th	..... Unknown.
186	Peter E. La May	Private	B.	7th Minn. Infy	48	December 26th	..... Cancer in stomach.
186	Ebon Skinkle	Private	K.	11th Minn. Infy	56	April 18th	..... Brain fever.
189	James Kluse	.....				

REPORT OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR, J. M. TUCKER.

*J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Minnesota,
G. A. R.:*

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: I have the honor to submit my report as Medical Director of this Department for the year ending February 27th, 1895. I have received reports for the current year from every Post in the Department, and I wish at this time to express my thanks to the officers of the several Posts for their prompt action in the matter of reports to the Medical Director. Not only are the reports more than usually full and explicit, but in many cases they have been accompanied by letters of explanation. I find on compiling these Post reports that more relief work is being done each year, and necessarily this part of the work of the order will become more arduous with each succeeding year, and that noble band of women, God's saints, the Woman's Relief Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic, is proving itself the sustaining power in this time of need, just as surely as did the same grand, loyal women of America in the War of the Rebellion, from 1861 to 1865. Is there an old soldier and his family in need? Has a sternly virtuous executive through the Department of the Interior, and the Bureau of Pensions, in its heroic efforts to purge the pension roll and make it a roll of honor, physicked away the paltry two, four, or six dollars, granted by mistake to some grey headed, bowed down, rheumatism bent, or shot torn, old veteran of the grand army of the Union, whose old heart is just breaking at the thought of his dependent family who must suffer in consequence? Who comes with brave words of cheer and substantial aid, and saves the self-respect and spirit of manhood, the *only* things that help him to maintain his hold on life? It's the Woman's Relief Corps, and if woman was God's best gift to man, verily the Woman's Relief Corps is the Divine Giver's best gift to the Grand Army of the Republic. Cherish it, and aid it my comrades with all the power of arm and pen and purse that Providence has vouchsafed to you. Many have fallen out of the ranks, my comrades, within the last year. Many a dear old comrade's face, that looked into ours at Harmonia Hall last year, has set in the silent lines of death; many an old comrade's eyes that gazed into ours with kindly light, and loyal friendship are dimmed forever; many a hand that met ours in the warm, firm clasp of a brother, is cold as the clay of the valley; many a brave heart that had thrilled with the wild enthusiasm of the battle as we fought shoulder to shoulder, has beat its last warm throb and is silent in the tomb. Ah! how we miss them, and how we *shall* miss them as our lines grow thinner and our front more narrow, with each succeeding

year. And amongst them all who shall we miss more than dear old Charley Parker.

Last year he sat or stood on the stage or moved amongst the comrades in the body of the hall, a familiar figure, seen at every encampment since we can remember, but today his place is vacant and we know that until we cross the silent river and join the glorious army who camp on the heights of glory, with Grant and Sherman, Sheridan and Logan, we shall never see his like again. Charley Parker, brave soldier, loyal comrade, true generous friend, farewell. God bless and keep you until we meet you in His last great day.

Comrades, from our ranks, in the Department of Minnesota, we have lost 138 men this year. 138 comrades less to be looked after and hounded by special examiners; that many less to claim a pension from a generous government they suffered to preserve. They have finished their battle and passed from earth, but their names and their deeds shall live in the memory of every comrade until the last man who fought for freedom and the rights of man, in the ranks of the Army of the Grand Republic has passed to his reward. In retiring from the office of Medical Director, I wish to thank the officers and men for their uniform courtesy and kindly assistance that has been accorded me, and I bespeak the same kindly feeling for my successor.

Respectfully submitted in F., C., and L.,

J. M. TUCKER,

Medical Director.

REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE, ELL TORRANCE.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: I have the honor to submit herewith my report as Judge Advocate of the Department of Minnesota, for the year just closed. The duties of my office have been of a pleasant character and easy to perform. Aside from advice and suggestions given in an informal manner, only one official opinion has been required of me by the Department Commander, which I deem of sufficient importance to include in this report.

The facts submitted and opinion thereon are as follows:

A comrade of Post No. — attended a political meeting of Populists in —, Minn., on the 23d of October, 1894, and carried in a torch light procession the flag of said Post, and also took said flag unfurled into the hall where said meeting was held, and where

political addresses were delivered by several speakers representing said party.

The comrade carrying said flag justifies his conduct on the ground that the Adjutant of said Post consented that the flag might be used in the manner and for the purpose above stated.

Was such action an infraction of any rule or regulation of our Order?

Article II of Chapter V., Rules and Regulations is as follows: "No officer or comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic shall in any manner use this organization for partisan purposes, and no discussion of partisan questions shall be permitted at any of its meetings, nor shall any nomination for political office be made."

It will be observed that said article prohibits any officer or comrade from using the organization for partisan purposes, that is, political purposes. Politics is the evil intended to be guarded against. The organization can never be successfully assailed or invaded by any power outside of itself. The only danger to be apprehended is from within, and experience has demonstrated that partisan politics is the only thing that can disrupt the bond of fraternal feeling or impair the prosperity and usefulness of our Order.

For more than a quarter of a century the Grand Army of the Republic has been able, during the bitter political contests which have agitated the country, to maintain a non-political attitude, and not only to command the respect and confidence of all good citizens, but to maintain, in its integrity, the cardinal principles of the Order.

Of all symbols known to civilized nations the flag stands first, and to a soldier of the Union the beauty and sacredness of the Red, White and Blue and the glory of the Stars and Stripes is beyond the power of language to describe.

When this flag is set apart as the colors of a Post, and upon its folds is inscribed its name and the Department to which it belongs, it loses none of its sacredness, but takes on a new meaning, and stands not only for "freedom and the right," but for Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty as taught and exemplified by the Grand Army of the Republic.

The flag becomes not only the property of the Post, but it is inseparable from it, and typifies all that the organization represents.

I think it is a perversion of its use and a violation of both the letter and spirit of the Rules and Regulations for any officer or comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic to carry its Post flag in a political procession or into a public place where a political meeting is held, or where partisan politics are discussed.

The flag is not only out of place, but it suffers dishonor; an element of discord is introduced, and the Order suffers an injury hard to repair, and if persisted in, would soon disintegrate and destroy an institution, the grandeur and nobility of which has never had its equal in the world's history.

In closing this report I wish to commend the spirit of fraternity which exists among the comrades. The Department has enjoyed a year of peace, harmony and prosperity. The element of bitterness and strife finds no lodgment in the manly breast of the "old soldier." He has long since forgiven even his enemies, and toward his comrades he entertains a brotherly love, both strong and pure, which increases with his declining years and brings to his heart the sweetest consolation. Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, but the greatest of these is Fraternity.

For the courtesy and fraternal kindness shown to me by the Department Commander, yourself and all my official associates, I desire to express my thanks, and to assure you and them, of my warm personal esteem and confidence.

Yours in F., C. and L.,

ELL TORRANCE,

Judge Advocate.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR,
HARRISON WHITE.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: I have the honor to submit here-with my report of the inspection of the Posts of this Department for the year ending December 31, 1894. My report has been delayed hoping to be able to make a full report of every Post in the Department, but there are thirteen Posts still delinquent: No. 6, 12, 42, 61, 74, 97, 109, 113, 124, 142, 152, 177, 182. One report was received to-day, Feb. 25th. My tabulated report having been completed I make supplementary report of this, making a total of 172 Posts reporting out of the 185 in good standing; 4 Posts having surrendered their charters. I give below a condensed report of the Department Inspection from my tabulated report, to be forwarded to the Inspector General, and enclosed herewith:

Posts reporting work in Ritual committed and properly

performed	65
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Posts reporting the work in Ritual partly committed and properly performed.....	41
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Posts reporting the work in Ritual not committed and properly performed.....	63
Posts reporting officers and guards properly uniformed and equipped.....	34
Posts reporting officers and guards not uniformed and equipped	100
Posts reporting officers and guards partly uniformed and equipped	39
Posts reporting members uniformed and equipped.....	14
Posts reporting members not uniformed and equipped..	100
Posts reporting members partly uniformed and equipped	58
Posts reporting officers regular in attendance.....	123
Posts reporting officers fairly regular in attendance.....	38
Posts reporting officers not regular in attendance.....	11
Posts reporting members regular in attendance.....	73
Posts reporting members fairly regular in attendance...	51
Posts reporting members not regular in attendance.....	48
Posts reporting an exhibit of interest in the Post.....	147
Posts reporting a fair exhibit of interest in the Post.....	8
Posts reporting little exhibit of interest in the Post.....	6
Posts reporting no exhibit of interest in the Post.....	11
Posts reporting records complete and well kept	168
Posts reporting no records kept..	4
Posts reporting orders received and filed.....	168
Posts reporting orders not filed.....	4
Posts reporting orders duly observed.....	168
Posts reporting orders not observed.....	3
Posts reporting orders fairly observed	1
Posts reporting all reports and dues forwarded.....	172
Posts reporting a Relief Fund.....	53
Posts reporting no Relief Fund.....	119
Posts reporting having a W. R. C. auxiliary.....	100
Posts reporting having no W. R. C. auxiliary.....	72
Posts reporting having Sons of Veteran Camps.....	38
Posts reporting having no Sons of Veteran Camps.....	134
Posts reporting excellent condition of their Posts.....	11
Posts reporting good condition of their Posts	95
Posts reporting fair condition of their Posts.....	49
Posts reporting poor condition of their Posts.....	17
Total membership of 172 Posts reporting	7,418
Total muskets owned by 172 Posts reporting.....	892
Total amount of money, 172 Posts reporting, in Relief Fund.....	\$1,339.25
Total amount of money and securities in Post Quartermaster's hands.....	8,042.77

Total amount of other property owned by Posts.....	40,056.16
Total amount expended for charity.....	1,875.48

Appreciating the difficulties under which we labor, as we battle with the infirmities of increasing years and the disabilities incurred in the service of our country, as well as the disastrous times which are upon us, I think we have reason for congratulation at the favorable showing of Minnesota's Grand Army of the Republic. I regret to report a pecuniary disaster to James George Post No. 23, by cyclone, September 21, 1894, of property to the amount of \$1,300.

The inquiry as to the school districts of the Department being supplied with United States flags has received very unsatisfactory responses, and from all I can learn through reports of Assistant Inspectors, it would seem that a large majority of the districts have no United States flags, and I would suggest that our Legislature be requested to pass a law making it compulsory for school boards to supply regulation flags and suitable flag staffs for their display in every district in the State.

In closing I wish to express my gratitude to my Assistant Inspectors as well as to the Commander and Assistant Adjutant-General for the valuable assistance rendered me in making my inspection of the department.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

HARRISON WHITE.

Department Inspector.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOLDIERS' HOME.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Minnesota, G. A. R.

COMRADE: Pursuant to General Orders No. 2, dated at Minneapolis, Minn., April 6th, 1894, the following Committee on Soldiers' Home was designated:

Chas. J. Stees, Acker Post 21, St. Paul,
B. G. Merry, Geo. Crook Post 69, Stillwater,
Chas. G. Hunt, Plummer Post 50, Minneapolis,
W. W. Ranney, McIntyre Post 66, Austin,
Geo. A. Whitney, Farragut Post 102, Wadena,

who beg leave to make the following report:

During the past year there have been three formal meetings of the Committee who met the Board of Trustees of the Home officially, made a thorough inspection of the various buildings comprising the Home and were most hospitably received by the

Commandant and the officers under his command. Besides these formal visits by the Committee there were more frequent visits from the comrades of the local counties—particularly from Hennepin—who made at least two weekly visits during the year, giving a thorough and critical examination of all the buildings and their contents.

We found one administration building, one domestic building, one hospital, three cottages, one laundry and heating plant and one root house, which were minutely inspected by us and proved to be all that could be desired.

We inspected the institution informally; we mingled freely with its inmates without any restraint whatever from the officers in charge; we ate, chatted and smoked and joked with them; ate at the same table, partook of the same food; found the old boys well fed and well clothed, occupying an elegant and comfortable home of which Minnesota or any other state might well be proud.

We also visited the kitchen, examined the quality and kind of food and utensils in which they were cooked and prepared, and found the food abundant and of excellent quality, the utensils nice and clean and everything apparently satisfactory.

We also visited the hospital, surgical departments, dispensary, bath rooms, closets, and the various wards connected with the same and found everything to be all that could be desired.

It is the opinion of your committee that on account of the crowded condition of the Home, a new cottage building is greatly needed, and by reason of the increasing infirmities of old age, the sleeping apartments in the same should be made more numerous, thus affording more privacy to aged and decrepit comrades, and a relief from the enforced companionship with others, which will prove a great blessing, we therefore recommend the building of the same.

We recommend an increase of power in the electric plant so that all the buildings at the Home may be lighted by the same.

We recommend the establishment of a *Repair Fund* so that it will not be necessary to draw upon the Soldiers' Home Fund for repairs at the Home; this will expedite business and prevent delay when immediate repairs are needed or required.

It is the opinion of your committee that in the case of a sick comrade, transportation should be furnished him from his residence to the Soldiers' Home and recommend that the same be furnished him.

Your Committee does not deem it expedient that the Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home should act as Commissioner for the county wherein he resides, and recommend that all applications for relief to the Soldiers' Home Fund should be

made direct to the Trustee of that county or to a Commissioner appointed for that county for that purpose.

We recommend that overcoats and woolen underclothing be issued to the inmates of the Home for winter.

We recommend that the position of Steward, for the Home, be established.

We recommend, where all things being equal, inmates of the Home should have the preference where hired help is required.

Your committee find in some complaints made, points well taken, but not of a nature for this report, and which can be easily remedied by a note to the Commandant of the Home.

We especially desire to commend comrade John Gilman, one of the Trustees of the Home, for his efficient services during the past year, whereby a large sum of money was saved to the Home by the erection of the bridge across Minnehaha creek, and the building of the root-house, as well as other improvements.

As the Home is neither the abode of paupers nor criminals, we believe that the services of the Secretary of the State Board of Charities and Corrections can be entirely dispensed with, and respectfully recommend that the State Legislature no longer recognize that functionary in connection with the Home in the future.

We recommend that in the future the Department Commander will appoint, as a Committee on the Soldiers' Home, comrades—not as ornaments or compliment—but those who are able to work and *will* work.

Respectfully submitted by the Committee,

CHAS. J. STEES, Chairman,

CHARLES G. HUNT, Secretary.

Your Committee herewith submits the Morning Report of February 12th, 1895, showing the number present and absent, of the Home:

MORNING REPORT OF MINNESOTA SOLDIERS' HOME.

MINNEHAHA February 12th, 1895.

PRESENT.

Non-commissioned officers for duty.....	10
Privates for duty.....	247
Privates temporary at Post.....	...
Non-commissioned officers on extra duty with pay.....	25
Exempt from detail.....	16
Privates temporary at Post on extra duty, with pay.....	...

Privates undergoing sentence on extra duty, without pay.....	...
Non-commissioned officers sick.....	...
Privates sick.....	65
Non-commissioned officers in arrest.....	...
Privates in arrest.....	2
Total number of non-commissioned officers present.....	10
Total number of privates present.....	355

ABSENT.

Non-commissioned officers with leave.....	...
Privates with leave.....	35
Privates temporary at Post with leave.....	...
Non-commissioned officers without leave.....	...
Privates without leave.....	I
Privates temporary at Post without leave.....	...
Non-commissioned officers sick.....	...
Privates sick.....	...
Non-commissioned officers in arrest.....	...
Privates in arrest .....	...
Total number of non-commissioned officers absent.....	...
Total number of privates absent.....	36
Total number non-commissioned officers present and absent.	10
Total number of privates present and absent.....	391
Aggregate this report	401
Aggregate last report.....	401

Number of beds.....	380
Number of vacant Beds.....	2
Number of members sleeping on floors.....	...

RALPH VAN BRUNT,

Adjutant.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Fifteenth Annual Encampment,
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA;
Grand Army of the Republic.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1895.

The Fifteenth Annual Encampment, Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, under the *new* organization, and the twenty-eighth under the *old*, was held at Ford's Music Hall, in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, February 27th and 28th, 1895.

The Encampment was called to order by Commander Sam. R. Van Sant, and in response to the Commander's gavel the Encampment arose and Department Chaplain, H. G. Bilbie, invoked the Divine blessing as follows:

CHAPLAIN H. G. BILBIE: Our Father, the experience of our lives has taught us that without Thee we can not do anything well. We therefore come to Thee at the beginning of this Encampment, asking Thee to help us with Thy presence. Bless the speakers of the day, and we pray Thee that they may be filled with Thy presence and love, and bring us at last to a home with Thee, for Christ's sake, AMEN.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Comrades, in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements we give you a soldier's welcome to St. Paul, and now introduce to you the Hon. Smith, Mayor of the City of St. Paul.

MAYOR SMITH: Gentlemen of the Grand Army of the Republic. Your organization stands out more prominently before the American people than any other society, for the reason that its membership is composed of the soldiers and marines of the late Civil War, patriotic men, who in the hour of danger to the Republic, abandoned the peaceful pursuits of life and the endearments of home and family and took arms in their hands to save the constitution and re-unite under one flag all the States of this Union. After success had crowned our cause and the war was closed, a few choice spirits conceived the idea of forming a society composed of these defenders of the Union in order to draw more closely together the bonds of fellowship and fraternity which must ever unite them. (Applause.)

I well remember when the organization was first formulated it met with severe criticism; was denounced as a secret political body, and its object declared to be the perpetuation of the bitter sectional animosities engendered during the war. Time, and the progress of events have proven the entire falsity of the charge then made.

The greater and more patriotic object of your creed, however, is, as I understand it, to maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based on a paramount respect for, and fidelity to the National constitution and laws, and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men. (Applause.)

It is a peculiarity of men, which shows, as few other circumstances do, the moral and mental limitations of our being, that we seldom understand the great significance of the events which transpire around us.

It will be left to future generations to properly estimate and duly honor the heroism of the men of whom you are the survivors and representatives. The history of the human race presents no counterpart of the grim valor which found expression daily on the fields of the South among the rank and file, as well as among the leaders of the two great opposing forces.

We seek to perpetuate their memory only because we wish history to record that never, even during the miseries of Valley Forge or confronted by the hopelessness of the retreat from Long Island, was the devotion of the American citizen to civil liberty, as he understood it, more gloriously vindicated. (Applause.)

Through your valor and your sacrifices, and the valor and the sacrifices of those with whom you fought, there has been called into existence once more a nation, which, in the continued unity and fraternity of the people affords the grandest assurance vouchsafed from heaven, of the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

Now, gentlemen, understanding as I believe I do, the purely patriotic motive of your organization, I feel proud of the privilege, as chief executive of this city, of giving you a cordial greeting personally, and extending to you on behalf of our citizens their most cordial welcome. (Prolonged applause.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Mayor Smith, in behalf of this Department I return to you our thanks for the hearty welcome you have given us. It is hardly necessary that you should grant us the freedom of the city. I may say that most of the comrades had the freedom of the city last night, and if they had not been given it they would have captured it. Comrades, in a measure I am responsible for your good behavior, and I know you will do right, and I have no fear but that the Mayor will be just as glad when we depart as when we came. (Applause.)

This is the fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Department of Minnesota G. A. R., and we have met to transact such business as shall come before us. We meet in fraternity, charity and loyalty. Comrades will rise while the Chaplain invokes the Divine blessing.

CHAPLAIN H. G. BILBIE: We come into Thy presence again, our Father, for thy blessing; we have much to be grateful for this beautiful morning. We thank Thee that so many of us are spared through the year, and are in health here in Thy presence. We pray Thy blessing to rest on the Encampment, and for Thy wisdom to direct in the business which may come before us. Visit the homes of suffering comrades, help them and their families to lean on Thy strong arm, and administer to them such comfort as Thou alone canst impart. Protect and guide our nation, perfect its purity, elevate its moral standard and perpetuate its institutions. Bless the order to which we belong, and bring us at last with all our loved ones to Thy home of blessedness and light, to dwell with Thee forever, for the sake of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I suggest that in our deliberations to-day, when any comrade rises he announce his name and the number of his Post. It is hard to remember your names, and it will help the stenographer and it will help me. The first order of business is the roll call of officers, which the Assistant Adjutant General will now proceed to do.

Roll of officers called.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We will now listen to the report of the Committee on Credentials. I will say to the comrades that we have taken a new departure, and the Committee on Credentials will make their report at this time. It will obviate the long roll call this morning. You have been detained a little, but the next time we can do better, and I know when we get through you

will like it better. We will then be ready to proceed to business. While we are waiting for that report I will appoint a Committee on Resolutions, and will name as the members of such committee: Comrades A. Barto, J. H. Baker and V. H. Harris.

COMRADE BECKER, Post 21, St. Paul: The Committee on Credentials have examined the credentials and have given every one who is a delegate to this Encampment a badge, and I move that the badge entitle the delegates to a seat in the Encampment, without calling the roll.

The motion was adopted.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The next thing in order is the Report of Officers, and at this time I will read my report. (See page 77.)

The reading of the report was received with frequent and hearty applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will ask all Past Department Commanders to take seats on the stage. The next thing in order will be the report of the Senior Vice Commander, A. H. Reed. (See page 83.)

JUDGE ADVOCATE, ELL TORRANCE: Commander and Comrades, I have been requested by the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps to invite the members of this Encampment to a memorial service, in memory of Mrs. Mary E. Starkweather, to be held at one o'clock this afternoon at the First Baptist Church, at the corner of Ninth and Waucota streets. They will be glad to see as many of the members of this Encampment present as possible. The hour has been fixed at one o'clock so as not to interfere with the Encampment.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We will now hear the report of the Junior Vice Commander, C. W. McKay. (See page 84.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We will now hear the report of the Assistant Adjutant General.

J. K. Mertz, Assistant Adjutant General then read his annual report. (See page 84.) The report was enthusiastically received and frequently applauded.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Since we last met our esteemed comrade, Past Department Commander Parker, has crossed the great river, and I think it proper to appoint a committee at this time to draft appropriate resolutions. I will appoint on that committee comrades R. A. Becker, A. H. Norton, and James Compton. We will listen to the report of Assistant Quartermaster General Leavens.

Report was read. (See page 91.) Report was received with applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The next will be the Chaplain's report.

Chaplain H. G. Bilbie's report was here read. (See page 93.) Report was listened to with interest and heartily applauded.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will next ask the Chaplain to call the roll of the dead, and I am going to ask this Encampment to rise while the names are called. Comrades, please rise.

The roll of the dead was then read. (See page 95.)

COMRADE J. H. DAVIDSON, Post 21, St. Paul: I move that we now take a recess until two p. m.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Are you ready for the question?

Cries of Question. Motion prevails.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will ask you to be in your place promptly at two o'clock, as we want to get down to business.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1895, 2 P. M.

The Encampment was called to order promptly at two o'clock.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The next order of business will be the Report of the Medical Director, J. M. Tucker.

Comrade Tucker then read his report (see page 101) which was received with applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Department Inspector White, we will have his report next.

Report was read and heartily applauded. (See page 104.)

COMRADE BARTO, Post No. 40, Sauk Centre: I rise to make a motion that I have been trying for several years to make, but Comrade Shaeffer or some other good looking fellow has always got the start of me. There is in session in this city a convention of ladies, the Woman's Relief Corps, and I move you sir, that a committee of this Encampment be appointed to convey to them our best wishes and congratulations, and anything further that this Encampment may deem best.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Carried. I will appoint chairman of this committee, our good looking friend who just made the motion, Comrade Shaeffer, his rival, and Comrade Compton, and I would just state that I have a little work for this committee immediately. I understand that there are some ladies in waiting, and I will ask these gentlemen to repair to the outer door and escort these ladies to the platform. (Applause.)

The report of the Woman's Relief Corps, Department of Minnesota, was read by Assistant Adjutant General Mertz, and was received with much applause. The report is as follows:

SAM R. VAN SANT,

Commander Department Minnesota G. A. R.

SIR: I herewith submit the following report of the relief extended by the several Corps of our Department:

Expended in relief.....	\$1,205.07
Turned over to Posts.....	1,175.56
Relief other than money.....	3,329.61
Relief for Nebraska vet'ns and dependent ones.	73.00
 Total	 \$5,783.24

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.,

MARY H. KENDALL,

Dept. Secretary.

LODUSKY J. TAYLOR,

Dept. President W.R.C.

COMRADE BARTO, Post No. 40, Sauk Centre: Commander, I have the great pleasure of introducing to you a committee of ladies of the G. A. R. who are here to present their greetings.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Comrades, I have the pleasure of introducing to you a committee of ladies of the G. A. R., and I will state that these ladies have the floor. Comrades, Mrs. Wetheren, Past National President of the Ladies of the G. A. R.

MRS. WETHEREN: Commander, officers and comrades. As a representative of the Ladies of the G. A. R., now in session, I tender in behalf of our organization fraternal greetings to this Encampment. Once more He who watches over us has permitted you to assemble in your annual session to legislate for one of the grandest armies that ever followed their country's flag. We have naught to bring you but love and gratitude for your mighty past and your glorious citizenship, and as I stand here and gaze over this sea of faces, my heart swells with joy when I remember that I am the daughter of one soldier, and the wife of another. (Applause.) I am happy to be able to come to you to-day bearing the inspiration of your wives, mothers, sisters and daughters and present their congratulations, and hope for you many years of happiness and prosperity which your service for your country entitles you to,

and that you may still continue to receive the plaudits of your countrymen. I have the pleasure of inviting you to a reception to be held in our hall this afternoon from four to seven and we hope to see at least many of you there. (Applause.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Comrades, I now have the pleasure of presenting to you Mrs. McIntosh.

MRS. MCINTOSH: Commander and comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, with greetings of the department of the ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic now in session I come to you. Surely my sister who has just spoken was a very wise selection, but I have been brought up too much of an old-fashioned orthodox to ever think of making a speech in public. It was my lot to have a taste of what you had a good deal of,—WAR! It was during Morgan's raid, and for months afterward we were in fear of his return. Mr. Morgan's manner of exchanging horses did not agree with our ideas of right, consequently everything had to be kept under lock and key. During the latter part of the war 130 very sick men were brought to our home, but the members of the Ladies' Aid Society took care of them, read to them, did their writing for them and often fed them. Comrades, the ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and the W. R. C. and kindred societies have the same feeling for you to-day and are ready and willing to do all they can to help you and cheer you, feeling that we can not do half enough, considering what you have done for us. We are in reality the same to the Grand Army of the Republic as the Ladies' Aid Society was in war times. These annual meetings are looked forward to with intense pleasure and are remembered for months after. When we meet in our several places incidents will be recalled and we live it all over again and feel good for having been here. Thankful are we for the past, thankful will we be when we get a different administration, (laughter)

and applause) thankful for this organization. God speed the day when every mother, wife, sister and daughter shall feel it her duty to come and unite with us, and come prepared to lend her shoulder to the wheel and so help and aid that life's setting sun may count for each and all some good transaction done. (Applause.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The lady means, new administration of the Grand Army of the Republic, and you will have one immediately. Comrades, I have the pleasure of introducing to you Mrs. Ella Wheeler Goff who has taken a great interest in our flag and is also a member of this society we all love so well.

MRS. GOFF: Commander, comrades, the work that is being done in the interest of patriotism in our State by our State Superintendent of Public Instruction is to me so delightful and I believe is accomplishing so much good that I was glad when arrangements were made that I might explain to you the work, and hope you will give some expression of your approval. And we shall appreciate your endorsement all the more because the Grand Army of the Republic, more than any other organization in the world, is the embodiment of loyalty to country. The schools are one medium through which the love of country may be taught, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction of our State who marched with the boys who wore the blue decided upon this new movement, the unfurling of the Old Flag and making the feeling of patriotism and good citizenship a distinctive feature in the schools. In addition to visiting the training schools and reporting their condition, work and progress, I was requested to give a lecture on the flag of our country and its symbolical meaning and the cost of establishing and preserving it. I have been requested by many of the comrades personally to give you here to-day the lecture I have given to the Teacher's Training School, but the lecture is

somewhat lengthy and I will omit considerable portions of it.

Mrs. Goff then read her lecture which was a most able and patriotic paper, and received with enthusiastic applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: As a mark of our appreciation for this splendid history of the growth and development of our National flag which has just been given us so eloquently, I take leave to ask unanimous authority to introduce this resolution and ask its immediate adoption.

Resolved, That the Legislature now in session be requested to authorize and require all school boards in the State of Minnesota to purchase a standard flag of the United States, which shall be caused to float during school hours from the top of the school building.

I ask its unanimous adoption by a standing vote. Any remarks?

COMRADE W. P. ROBERTS, Post No. 4, Minneapolis: I don't believe that that resolution should be adopted, or that the legislature should enact any such legislation. They will have to buy about two or three flags for every school house each year. I have no doubt but what every comrade will vote asking the legislature to enact some such law, but to keep the flag floating every day through the year would bankrupt the State.

A COMRADE: We certainly can leave this to the school board and the cost would be very small, and it don't require it to float every day in the year. It says "during school hours."

A COMRADE: Well, that means five hours a day.

A COMRADE: Not too many hours a day to have our National flag gazed upon by the people of this country. (Applause, cheering, and cries of good!)

A COMRADE: Commander, I rise to say that I believe that the Grand Army of the Republic in the State

of Minnesota is such that there isn't a man in it but would be willing to bring from his own pocket the amount necessary to keep the flag floating from the school buildings. (Applause.)

A COMRADE: I want to state that our Post has presented our school with a flag that cost us five dollars and that flag has floated every day in all kinds of weather for the last four years, and it is good yet. (cries of good.)

COMRADE MARTIN, Post No. 67, Detroit: I want my name to go on record that I am in favor of what the Commander has introduced. Now, our County Superintendent in Becker County, took the initiative in this movement, and there isn't a school in Becker County but what has a flag, and we old veterans have paid for the flag in our district, and just so long as they want a flag I will help pay for it. They never questioned us when our flags were used up in battle what it cost to get a new one, and give the school boys a chance to get one just the same as we had then.

COMRADE CLYDE, Post No. 31, Little Falls: I would say that our Post presented a flag that cost \$18 to our school in the City of Little Falls, and I want to see a flag on every school house in the country. It will instruct the youths, and we have a great many foreigners in our country that must be taught to love our country.

COMRADE BULLARD, Post No. 113, Verndale: I will say that in our school district the schools themselves wanted a flag, it was some three years ago, and they bought one and it floated for nine months every year, and it is a good flag yet. There must be about 25 of them that are floating flags now and most of them have been bought by the Grand Army boys and the school boys, and if the gentleman is afraid that their school district will be bankrupted by buying a flag, we will send them down one. (Applause and cries of good.)

A COMRADE: I travel over the State a good deal and I see a great many school houses and I tell you, when you see a flag on a school house every one looks out and says: "There's an American flag." Where is there a more beautiful sight than to see a small school house with a big flag; particularly when the flag floats on school houses in the country where nobody else hardly lives. I say, I want to see the flag on every school house. (Applause.)

COMRADE DOWNS, John A. Rawlins Post No. 126, Minneapolis: I don't want to interfere with the comrades having a little fun here, but if they would get the newspapers they would see that I introduced a bill in the Legislature covering this very same resolution.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I want to say a word if you please. I will state for the information of the gentleman and the other people here that that bill was indefinitely postponed. (Applause.)

A COMRADE: While we are talking about flags I will tell you our experience. We have got a fair looking school house and we had no flag,—it was two or three years ago,—it was Decoration Day, and we went and bought a flag and made the school a present of it.

COMRADE W. P. ROBERTS, Post No. 4, Minneapolis: I move that this matter be referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: On motion of the comrade from Minneapolis that this matter be referred to the Committee on Resolutions—

Cries of "No, No, No."

COMMANDER VAN SANT: If Comrade Downs has introduced his bill and it is still alive it is a "good thing" and let's help "push it along," but if it is dead we will resurrect it if we can. (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

COMRADE MAHAN, Post No. 21, St. Paul: I wish to introduce another resolution and ask its unanimous adoption at this time.

WHEREAS, a nation's security depends upon the character of its citizens, and the most important branch of a citizen's education is patriotism;

WHEREAS, patriotism is developed and fostered by a military training, therefore be it

Resolved, that the members of the Legislature of the State of Minnesota be requested to enact such laws as may be necessary for the introduction and maintenance of a military training in our public schools.

Resolved, that the Governor of the State of Minnesota, and our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use their influence in securing the assignment of such officers of the regular army as may be necessary to act as military instructors in the high schools of this State.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: All in favor of that motion say aye.

Motion prevailed.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: (As the ladies rise to leave the platform) Ladies, will you please bear to your organization the fraternal greetings of this Encampment. We receive you with open arms.

A COMRADE: There has been so much talk about that "old flag" that I propose to give three cheers for it.

Three cheers were given with a will.

COMRADE HALSTEAD, Post No. 57, Excelsior: While we are on the subject of flags I propose to introduce a resolution. The resolution contemplates the action of the State of New York:

Resolved, that on no public building in the State of Minnesota, at any time shall any flag be raised except the old flag we fought under. (Cries of good!) That this Department of the Grand Army of the Republic is in favor of our old flag being the only flag which shall be or can be hoisted on public buildings at any time, and ask the Legislature at its present session to pass such a law.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: All in favor of that resolution say aye.

The motion prevailed.

A COMRADE: I think it is unwise to adopt such a resolution. Such a resolution was introduced in the Senate, and it was there stated that it was a reflection upon the patriotism of the State of Minnesota, and I believe that that was correct. I believe that there is public sentiment in this State so strong that no other flag can be raised on a public building, and I am opposed to that resolution.

COMRADE HALSTEAD: No person has greater respect for the State of Minnesota than I have. (Applause.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The resolution has been adopted. We will proceed with the order of business. The next thing in order is the report of Judge Advocate Torrance.

Report read. (See page 102.) Hearty applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We have already sent our greetings to the Ladies of the G. A. R., and I desire the committee to present our greetings to the Woman's Relief Corps. The committee can depart. The next order of business is the report of the Chief Mustering Officer, Comrade Ives.

CHIEF MUSTERING OFFICER G. S. IVES: You have taken me a little by surprise. It has not been usually customary for the Chief Mustering Officer to make his report. The most of his report is found in that of the Assistant Adjutant General; but I don't want it understood that I am not ready to report. Commander, the Chief Mustering Officer begs leave to report that during the term of his office he has been ready, as a good soldier should, to at all times promptly to obey the orders of his chief, all of which is respectfully submitted. (Applause and laughter.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The report has one good feature about it; it was short. (Laughter.) The following communication was received from the Sons of Veterans:

ST. PAUL, MINN., February 27, 1895.

To the Commander, Officers and Members, Department Encampment Minnesota G. A. R.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to a vote taken by St. Paul Camp No. 1, Sons of Veterans, the Camp hereby, and through its committee, tenders to you the members of the Camp as an escort of honor, on the night of the Camp-fire, to escort the National Commander, Department officers and members from the Windsor hotel to the People's church. An early reply is greatly desired.

Very fraternally yours,

LOUIS DELESTRY,
O. F. MYERS,
Committee.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: What shall be done with this request? I think it would be good enough to accept this very kind offer.

Upon motion the offer of the escort was accepted.

COMRADE JOHN ESPY, Post No. 21, St. Paul: Before proceeding further with the regular order of this Encampment I would like to have the unanimous endorsement of this resolution. In the proceedings of this Encampment, a year ago, you will find recorded in our minutes a resolution introduced by Past Department Commander Parker, in regard to inviting the National Encampment to St. Paul. He was the first to encourage that movement, and during the remaining days of his life was most active and earnest in trying to secure the Encampment for St. Paul, and I have simply taken his resolution and changed the dates and I ask that this resolution be adopted without the usual reference to the Committee on Resolutions. In token of our respect for his memory I move that this resolution be adopted by a rising vote.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Paul is an applicant for the honor of entertaining the 30th National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1896;

Resolved, that the movement receive the hearty endorsement of the Department of Minnesota, G. A. R., now in session, and that the delegates to the 29th National Encampment, convening in Louisville in September, 1895, be and are hereby instructed to use every means in their power to assist St. Paul in accomplishing the desired result.

Resolution adopted.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We will next listen to the report of the Council of Administration.

COMRADE MONTGOMERY, Post No. 37, St. Peter, chairman of the executive committee of the Council of Administration presented his report. (See page 92.)

COMRADE A. F. FOSTER, Post No. 35, Litchfield: I move that a committee of five be appointed as a committee on Legislation, and if that motion is seconded I will give my reasons for it. (Motion seconded.) I think it was two years ago that I said something on the question of the Dependent Pension Law, and the reason why the members of the Grand Army of the Republic should stand together now as they had never before. They have done this, and notwithstanding that they have stood shoulder to shoulder they feel that great injustice has been done to many of their comrades. Now, comrades, it has been stated by the report here that about \$72,000, which has been raised to make your declining years, if you become dependent, happy and pleasant, has been diverted from its channels, and I say to you, this ought not to be, and there should be a Committee on Legislation whose duty it is to watch these things. What has been everybody's business has been nobody's business, and for that reason, my comrades, these things are being done to-day. I don't possess the power to look into the hearts of men and see what their motives are, but if I were in the Pension Department to-day and I wanted to make it just as

hard as I possibly could for the sons of the fathers in blue and the wives of the boys in blue to get their deserts I would do just exactly as the Pension Department has been doing for the last two years. They tell us that they do this because they want to make the pension roll a roll of honor; but I want to say to the Pension Department, in the name of our dead comrades, in the name of our martyred Lincoln, in the name of our stars and stripes, you shall not unreasonably and unjustly make hard the road by which the old comrade gets justice. They say that they want to make this the roll of honor. I say to them, my comrades, the roll of honor was made long ago when the boy stepped forward and registered and took the flag in his hand and carried it across the red and slippery field. (Applause.) I tell you, my comrades, the pension laws of this land have been so ruled upon that they have become worse than the common law which the lawyers for two hundred years have been trying to make a bundle of technicalities. The pension laws ought to be simple; they ought to be so cheap that the poorest soldier in the land could purchase them. I would have them codified so that they can not by interpretation hedge around it, and then the comrades in blue would have justice. (Applause.)

COMRADE HOPKINS, Post No. 116, Morton: On behalf of the comrades I would say that I have noticed lately a disposition on the part of the present Administration to ask information from postmasters. Now, I don't care what party is in power, you can see that there is a great chance for injustice to the cause. In the bitter partisan struggles through which we pass there is nothing to prevent some postmaster from doing injury to some honorable comrade. I know of two cases that have come under my notice where comrades have had adverse decisions given against them by postmasters. We can have legislation, and I hope the motion will prevail. (Applause.)

H. S. CLYDE, Post No. 31, Little Falls: I would like to quote an old saying, "Pluck the mote out of thine own eye before you attempt to cast the beam out of thy brother's eye." I refer to the relief afforded by the State by a tax of one and a half mill to help the disabled wards of the Grand Army of the Republic; it is not being handled in the way that it should be. \$72,000 has been returned into the State funds, and great injustice has been done to many of our needy comrades, and their widows and orphans, many of whom are dependent on public charity for their daily bread. This has caused a great deal of suffering from the ones that are not drawing pensions that are unable to do any labor, and we send down to get a little relief, find that they cut us down one-half, and we have got to go through as much trouble and red tape as to get a pension. You have got to furnish your discharge, two comrade's affidavits, doctors certificate and affidavit of applicant and county agent's recommendation, and after you furnish all these things they will send only part of the relief applied for. While I endorse all that has been said with regard to pensions, I think there should be a remedy found for this. (Applause.)

Resolution adopted.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will call Senior Vice-Commander Reed to the chair.

COMRADE CHARLES J. STEES, chairman of Committee on Soldier's Home then read his report. (See page 106.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will state that a few minutes ago I received a telegram from Commander-in-Chief Lawler, who will arrive here to-morrow morning, (applause) and I desire that all the National Aides meet him.

A COMRADE: I move that we follow the plan of last year in the selection of delegates to the National Encampment.

Motion seconded and adopted.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Comrades, you will have to arrange this matter outside of the Encampment, after we adjourn, and hand the names in to-morrow. It will be better to attend to this immediately after we adjourn, and I will appoint places about the Hall. I suggest that the first district meet on the stage, the second in this corner of the room to my right, etc., etc. (indicating different parts of the house for the different districts.) After we adjourn you will meet and decide this matter, and I want to impress upon the minds of those who are selected that they must go. We have got work to do next year at Louisville, and no comrade should accept that office who will not go.

COMRADE SANBORN, Post No. 63, Madelia: I wish to speak in support of the suggestion made by the Assistant Adjutant General to have picket posts out in the country; I feel that that is an important matter. I have seen the workings of it in my own neighborhood. I have spoken to comrades who lived out fifteen miles or so from our post, and if it was not so far they would be glad to attend, and I move you sir that the Commander appoint a committee of five to take that matter in consideration and draft a plan by which it can be carried out.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The motion prevails, and I will leave it for Comrade Torrance to appoint (laughter and applause)—you didn't hear the rest of my remark, "or whoever is elected." The Assistant Adjutant General informs me that the National Journals are ready for distribution, and the Commander of each Post is entitled to one. He can have it by calling at the desk. The Committee on Arrangements wish to announce that they have tried to distribute the souveniers, there is one for every comrade that is in attendance on this Encampment. You can get them by applying here to the committee at any time. We also

want to inform you that we don't want a single comrade to leave the city until they attend the camp-fire. You will get your tickets and we will see that every comrade gets one. The Woman's Relief Corps will furnish every woman with a ticket, and we want you all to be present. The camp-fire will be held in the People's Church. We don't want one of you to leave the hall or you won't get your tickets. We will get to distributing them in a few minutes. Now, every one who receives a ticket is expected to be in their seat by eight o'clock to-morrow evening,—that means eight o'clock, and you must leave in time to be in your seats at eight o'clock for the programme will commence promptly at that time.

COMRADE BARTO, Post No. 40, Sauk Centre: The Commander has made me chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. Now it is very important that the committee have all the resolutions presented here to-day and get them before us. If you will do this, get your resolutions before us, we will be ready to report them back to-morrow morning, and if you retard it until the last hour it will retard the Encampment just so long.

A COMRADE: I wish to say that I came here for a little enjoyment as well as business, and in so doing I would like to ask the members of the Iron Brigade, which was composed of the 6th and 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana, and 24th Michigan, that we have a meeting of all the members of that Brigade to-morrow at half past one o'clock right here at the door. All the members of what was known as "The Iron Brigade of the Army of the Potomac."

COMMANDER VAN SANT: Now I hope it is impressed on the mind of every one about this selection of delegates. The Chair will entertain a motion to take a recess until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded and carried.

SECOND DAY—THIRD SESSION.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 28, 1895.

The Encampment was called to order at 10 o'clock a. m. by Commander Van Sant in the following words:

Now Comrades, you just want to fill every seat before the National Commander gets here with four of his staff. We want every seat taken, so move over and do not get toward the end. The house will please come to order. The Committee on Resolutions are ready to make a partial report. We will now listen to their report.

COMRADE BARTO, Post No. 40, Sauk Centre: Department Commander, your committee having under consideration the following resolution recommend that it do pass.

Resolved. that Adjutant General J. K. Mertz be allowed One Hundred Dollars (\$100) extra for his services on account of sickness and faithful services.

C. H. FARNSWORTH,
Robson Post No. 5.

Cries of "Question, question."

COMMANDER VAN SANT: All those in favor of the passage of this resolution say aye.

Cries of "Aye, aye," amidst loud applause.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The motion is carried.

COMRADE JOHN SCHAEFER, Post 134, St. Cloud: I was ready to offer an amendment to that. (Cries of "No.") I am very sorry—it ought to have been made \$200, as it was well deserved. (Applause.)

COMRADE BARTO: We saved \$100 by being in a hurry.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I will just say that this is a just tribute to a very worthy and deserving comrade. I did not put the noes because I knew they wouldn't

go on record. This hundred dollars will pay his doctor's bill, and all he wants is his expenses.

A COMRADE: Yes, but we want him to live.

A COMRADE: There is another year coming. (Applause.)

COMRADE BARTO: A resolution was handed your committee, introduced by Henry Slade Goff. The resolution was not exactly what your committee thought was proper, and they offer this as a substitute for that resolution.

Resolved, that it is due the loyal women of the war that an appropriate monument, commemorating their loyalty and devotion to the Union cause, should be erected at the Capitol of the Nation as a just testimonial to their services, their trials and their sorrows.

The Committee moves that this resolution be adopted.

Motion was seconded by several comrades, and upon being put, prevailed.

COMRADE BARTO: This resolution, introduced by Comrade Torrance, is one of considerable importance both to the Department and to each member of it.

WHEREAS, this is the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Department of Minnesota, G. A. R., under the new organization, and the twenty-eighth under the old organization, and,

WHEREAS, the proceedings of said Encampment from the date of the organization of said Department up to and including the 13th Encampment have not been published, and it is important that a true and complete record thereof be preserved so that an authentic history of this Department may be handed down to posterity, therefore,

Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed by the Department Commander, who shall be familiar with the early history of the Department, to examine, collect and prepare for publication from the existing records of the Department, and such other sources as may be trustworthy, a report of its yearly proceedings from the date of organization to the year when its first report was made under the new organization; and to have the

same printed at the expense of the Department, under one cover, and under the direction of the Department Commander, who shall be ex-officio member of said committee.

COMRADE BARTO: The Committee on Resolutions have added to this resolution the following:

Provided, that the expense thereof shall not exceed the sum of \$500.

The committee felt that it would be well to limit, at least, the expense of this publication. The committee moves the adoption of the resolution as amended. Motion seconded.

Motion was put and prevailed.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: We will now listen to the report of the Committee on Officers' Reports. Said committee consisting of Comrades Wm. P. Roberts, Edwin Dunn and J. N. Bowler. Chairman Roberts of said committee submitted his report as follows:

ST. PAUL, MINN., Feb. 28, 1895.

To the Annual Encampment Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Officers' Reports having had under consideration the reports of the officers of this Department for the past year make the following recommendations:

1. That the Department Commander and his associates and staff have earned and are tendered the thanks of the Encampment for the faithfulness with which they appear to have performed their several duties; and that in most unqualified degrees is this expression of appreciation due and extended to Assistant Adjutant-General Mertz for the record of field and missionary work which he has accomplished under the direction and authority of the Department Commander, who so happily discovered the right man for this needed work.

2. That the interests of our Order demands that spirit of true comradeship commended in the report of the Department Commander which would carry on our rolls any comrade who loves our Order, but by adverse fate is too poor to pay his dues, and the cutting off of every one who is able to pay the small assessment necessary to maintain our organization in usefulness, but who from indifference or prolonged neglect fails to do so or to show more than a selfish interest, or none at all, in our organization.

But every endeavor should be continued to bring every eligible and worthy man who wore the Union blue into our ranks.

3. That the State of Minnesota took a forward step on the right line when it first established the outside Soldiers' Relief Fund and so provided for it that it did not need to be brought up at every session of the Legislature. Any effort directly or indirectly to defeat or to cheat the purpose of that fund should be guarded against. That fund will be needed more and more as the years go by in order to keep our comrades from suffering in their homes and with their families, as God intended. Such legislation as will prevent the diverting and dissipating of this fund should be had at the present session of our Legislature, and we concur in the recommendation of the Commander that a committee of five on legislation be appointed to look after that and other matters of interest to the Grand Army of the Republic until the next annual meeting of this Encampment.

4. That the Department Commander hereafter by proper order annually request Posts in the Department to arrange for and hold celebrations of the birth-day of Abraham Lincoln either by special meetings on February 12th or at the regular Post meeting occurring nearest that date.

5. That the additional sum of one hundred dollars be paid Assistant Adjutant-General Mertz, as recommended by the Commander, to meet bills for medical attendance, etc., in the long illness from which he has not even yet entirely recovered, and which sickness was incurred on the field and in line of Department duty.

6. That the subject of Grand Army "Videttes" or "Picket Posts" discussed by the Assistant Adjutant-General meets our approval, but in view of the fact that to carry out such a project it will require amendment of rules and regulations by the National Encampment, a committee of Comrade J. K. Mertz and the Commander, to be here elected, be appointed to formulate a plan for the making of scattered Union soldiers, Grand Army comrades by the Department Commander, or Mustering Officer specially authorized, who can administer our obligation and instruct in our work, such comrades then to be carried by the Assistant Adjutant General upon a non-affiliate roll until such time as Posts have been formed in their locality, paying such nominal dues for the counter-sign as may be determined in each Department, and that our delegation to the next National Encampment be instructed to use all reasonable efforts to secure the adoption of that or some other suitable plan for gathering these veterans into our ranks.

7. That the report and official decisions of the Judge Advocate be approved.

8. That the plan of visitation or field work by or under the direction of the Department Commander adopted two years ago should be continued, and the sum of \$250 be appropriated for that purpose.

9. That the suggestion of the Department Chaplain for the appointment of a committee by each Post to interview the chief executives of all cities and villages in regard to the observance of Memorial Day, and especially the abstinence from sports and games on that day is approved, and the Commander is instructed to call attention to the subject in his Memorial Day order.

Fraternally submitted,

WILLIAM P. ROBERTS,
EDWIN DUNN,
J. M. BOWLER.

Upon motion, the report of the committee was unanimously adopted.

COMRADE HALSTED, Post No. 52, Excelsior: Two years ago, I remember, when we were in St. Paul there was an important society holding its meeting at the State House. They complimented us by inviting us to go there. We sent a delegation and I was a member of that delegation. We ought to return the compliment extended to us at that time, and I propose it in this way: That this body invite the officers of that association, the Sons of the American Revolution, to come to our camp-fire this evening. I would say that in the person of the president, Judge Edgerton, we have perhaps what you cannot find the duplicate of in Minnesota to-day, certainly not in that society, a son of a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

Concurred in.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The time has arrived for the special order of the day, which is the election of officers, and nominations for Department Commander are in order.

COMRADE J. H. BAKER, Post No. 19, Mankato: I desire to place in nomination a comrade for the high office which has been just mentioned, that of Comman-

der of the Department of Minnesota. The gentleman whom I would present requires no eulogy at my hands, nor at the hands of any comrade here. His personal life, his personal character, his unblemished record as a citizen and a soldier, prompts me to place him before you to-day as a candidate for your Commander. I have the pleasure of nominating Ell Torrance, (loud applause and cheering) of John A. Rawlins Post No. 126, Minneapolis. Comrade Torrance is fitted for this position. There are but few of us who are expressly and distinctly fitted for the position of Commander of the Department. I do not say this in any unkind spirit, for we have many great and good men among us. But I think those who are personally acquainted with Comrade Torrance will admit his personal fitness for this position. By education, by culture, by refinement, by his high standing among his fellow citizens—in all these things he is worthily our candidate for this high position. But beyond that he sustains another relation to us, that of comradeship in the Grand Army of the Republic in which his heart and soul have been engaged since the organization of the Grand Army. (Applause.) The history of his family is one of which he may well be proud. His ancestors were engaged in the War of the Revolution, and his father, in venerable age and with whitened locks, was at some of the great battles for the preservation of this Union, and he himself entered the service of his country at the early age of seventeen and carried his musket to the front. (Applause.) He enlisted as a private soldier in Co. A of the 9th Penn. Reserves, and he knows exactly what it means to have been a private soldier in that great contest. He was in many battles,—perhaps there are few men even in this illustrious audience who were in more heated engagements than Comrade Torrance. He was wounded in one of the severe engagements of the war and his battle record is a history of which he may well be proud, and of which we, his comrades,

may also be justly proud. He has been identified with this organization from its beginning until now. I do not believe that there has been an encampment of the Grand Army in this State which he has not attended. He has nearly always been a delegate from his Post. He has been a delegate to the National Encampment frequently. He has been upon the Council of the National Administration, and in all these places has signalized his service by earnest enthusiasm and high integrity; and I say to you, comrades, to-day, that if you will take this comrade and place him in the Commander's chair, I honestly believe that you will have a man of whom you will be proud and a man who, under all circumstances and on every occasion, will justly represent the intelligence and the patriotism of this foremost of august bodies that ever assembled in the State of Minnesota. (Applause.) I take great pleasure in presenting Comrade Torrance to you as a candidate for the position of Commander of the Department of Minnesota.

COMRADE MERO, Post No. 119, Minneapolis: I know that it is the sentiment of this Department to elect Comrade Torrance Commander, and I move that he be elected by acclamation.

Motion seconded.

COMRADE BULLARD, Post No. 113, Verndale: I move to amend, that the Assistant Adjutant General cast the ballot for Comrade Torrance.

The amendment was seconded.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: All in favor of the amendment that the Assistant Adjutant General of this Department cast the ballot of this Department for Department Commander will so signify by rising to their feet.

All in attendance rose. (Cries of Torrance, Torrance, and applause.)

A COMRADE: You better wait until he is elected.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The Assistant Adjutant General will cast the ballot for Department Commander.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL MERTZ: The Assistant Adjutant General casts the ballot of this Department for Comrade Ell Torrance as Department Commander.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I have the great pleasure of introducing to you your next Department Commander. I endorse every word that Comrade Baker has said. It is true he is a judge, but he is more than all, a comrade, the nearest and dearest tie that there is on this earth. I know that he was a good soldier, and that he did valient services for his country,—why, he really put down the Rebellion. (Applause and laughter.) I now have the pleasure—but why speak of the man when he is here to speak for himself. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

COMMANDER-ELECT TORRANCE: Commander and comrades, you have dealt very generously with me to-day, and I wish that I had an eloquent tongue, one that could phrase suitable words to convey to you the sentiments of my heart. This is a great honor, the highest in your gift, and the greatest I have ever received. Little did I dream when, more than a third of a century ago, I enlisted in the army of the Union, that I should live to see the day when I should be elevated to the command of a remnant of that Grand Army numbering more than eight thousand men; that I should be placed in that exalted position by the free choice of the veterans themselves. This honor which comes to me to-day is not the gift of some one high in authority, but it comes from the rank and file. I thank you from the depths of my heart for this mark of your love and of your confidence. And with the honor

comes a sense of responsibility that I must, in part, lay upon your strong and helpful shoulders. I pledge you, my comrades, and through you I pledge to the comrades of the Department of Minnesota, that I will, to the best of my ability, faithfully perform the duties of my office. But I cannot perform the work alone. There is not a comrade in this Department, I do not care how feeble, or how poor or how obscure he is, whose services are not necessary to the advancement and prosperity of the order. Now you must stand by me, my comrades. This encampment has been full of pleasure and enthusiasm and good feeling. I may look at things from a rosy standpoint, but it seems to me that you never were so kind hearted, that you never were so generous and fraternal in your greetings, and in your regard one for the other. We have had a prosperous year. This new year may be still more prosperous, but unless we stand together, unless I perform my duties and the other officers which we shall choose to-day shall perform their duties, and unless each one of you in your several places and relations, shall perform your duties, the year will end in disappointment. "Vigilance is the price of liberty,"—eternal vigilance, because liberty is so precious that it cannot be put in jeopardy for a single hour; and so is everything that is really valuable to us, it requires our constant care and devotion. And above all it is true of this glorious Order of ours. What would you give in exchange for your membership in the Grand Army of the Republic? What would you take for that bronze badge you wear over your loyal hearts? How could you get through these hard times, these long winters, these days of advancing feebleness and age, if it were not for the comradeship of these brothers of yours? I tell you, my comrades, we are like the old guard, "we will die, but we will never surrender." We will never surrender our rights, our privileges, our honors, or our membership in this noble order of patriots until

we are mustered out by death. We are here to stay, and to teach and promulgate the principles of fraternity, charity and loyalty until the lamp of life expires. My comrades, one and all, again I thank you. (Loud applause and cheering.)

COMMANDER VAN SANT: I approve of your acts so far. We will now elect a Senior Vice Department Commander. Let us have perfect order please.

COMRADE BECKER: I wish to place in nomination for this office a man whom we esteem highly and a man whom we expect to place in position this year to assist in the great undertaking of securing the National Encampment which we desire to be held here in 1896. We have selected a comrade for that position and we ask you to elect him, and I wish to place him in nomination at this time, giving his name, which you all know, J. J. McCardy.

The nomination of Comrade McCardy was seconded by several.

COMRADE MC CONKEY, Post No. 33, Fergus Falls: Commander and comrades, I also wish to place in nomination one who for the past year has held the position of Junior Vice of this Department. In performing his duties during the past year he has traveled over eight thousand miles. He has been a faithful officer, and I believe you will all bear me out in the statement that he has been an active worker and that he is a thorough enthusiast for the cause of the G. A. R. As a young kid he shouldered the musket and performed the duties devolving upon him in the front, faithfully and conscientiously. His war record, like that of our Commander, is one that we may all be proud of. I feel it a high honor that the northern part of the State has such a man that I can bring before you to-day. I take pleasure in presenting the name of C. W. McKay for the office of Senior Vice. (Applause.)

Nomination was seconded.

COMRADE MCKAY: Commander and comrades, will you bear with me one moment? When twelve months ago the great Department of Minnesota honored me with the office of Junior Vice Commander, I recognized that it was not Charley McKay, but all those comrades of the northern part of the State whom you were recognizing; and there is not, so far as I know, one comrade in all that part of the State but wants the National Encampment in 1896 at St. Paul, and there is not one comrade, so far as I know, but will do everything in his power to obtain it and to make it a grand success. I was young when I enlisted in the army, and I perhaps am comparatively young now, but I want to say right here before you all, that I acknowledge that I am the least of you all except on one point, and that is a point which I yield the palm to no man, the comradeship which that Grand Army body represents. Mr. Commander, if you will allow me, I move that the rules be suspended, in view of all the facts, and that the Assistant Adjutant General of this Department be instructed to cast the unanimous vote of this Department for Senior Vice Commander, J. J. McCardy.

The motion was seconded amid loud applause.

Motion prevailed.

COMMANDER VAN SANT: The Adjutant General is so instructed.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL MERTZ: The Assistant Adjutant General hereby casts the vote for J. J. McCardy for Senior Vice Commander of this Department for the ensuing year.

Comrade McCardy was called for and responded as follows:

Commander and comrades: It is a great honor to be called upon by this grand body to fill any office

within its gift, and I deeply feel this mark of your high regard, especially so do I stand before you as a representative loyal soldier born and raised in Kentucky. (Applause.) The crack of our carbines alongside of your revolvers was sweet music in your ears, and the memory of the comfort and consolation drawn from the "mountain dew," which we gave you in original packages, (laughter) I trust is not forgotten. Cemented by such ties of friendship it will be my pleasure to serve you. (Loud applause.)

Commander Van Sant: You are doing splendidly. (Laughter.) The next thing in order will be the election of a Junior Vice Commander.

Comrade Bullard, Post No. 113, Verndale: Commander and Comrades, I rise to place in nomination a man from the "Burned Region," or Banana Belt of Minnesota (laughter), and I am induced to do so somewhat from the resolution which was passed here and the recommendation that it was necessary that the outposts should be taken care of. A great proportion of the Grand Army men outside of the cities live in the northwestern part of the state, and in that part of the state we have a man whose war record is as good as the best. He is a man who has always been active in Grand Army circles, a man who is eloquent, a man who is always ready to lend his aid in any direction that will advance the interests of any comrade, no matter what his position or how humble it may be in life. The comrade that I name is E. B. Wood, of Long Prairie, and in presenting his name I believe that I voice the unanimous sentiment of the Grand Army men.

The nomination of Comrade Wood was seconded.

Comrade Hadwick, Post 95, Pipestone: I rise to place in nomination a member of an outpost also, but from a different portion of the state of Minnesota, the southwestern, and I will place in nomination one whom I believe has as bright a record as any man that stands before you now—one who is a Grand Army man from the ground

up. I rise to place in nomination Comrade Robert Scarf.

The nomination of Comrade Scarf was also seconded.

Commander Van Sant: Comrades, the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R., with his staff, is at the outer door and will now be received. Three cheers for the Commander-in-Chief.

The Comrades all arose and gave three lusty cheers, which broke into tremendous applause, as the Commander-in-Chief was escorted to the stage.

I wish all the comrades in the outer hall might have seats in the gallery. I wish that every comrade in Minnesota was here today. I do not like to see those comrades looking through the glass; I would suggest that they go up stairs and take seats. There are a few seats in here. Let them come in and be seated.

As Minnesotans we are proud of this great state and of its Department. We are proud of our great mineral wealth; we are proud of our great wheat fields which feed the world; we are proud of our great State University and of our other state institutions; but, comrades, far above them, we are proud of the men of Minnesota (applause) and we are proud of Minnesota's old soldiers. We are glad to know that your record in the war was so good. We are proud to be citizens of this state; we are proud to be citizens of this great country. It was my privilege and honor to go to the war from Illinois, a state that sent to the front two hundred and fifty thousand men—a state that gave us Lincoln, Grant and Logan (cries of good), and I am proud to know, too, that another distinguished gentleman came from that state and has been greatly honored, and I have the pleasure of introducing you to him today. It is no less a personage than the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is here. He is a comrade, a statesman, and a soldier. He is a man that had the pluck to go down to Washington and beard the lion in his den, to find out why you comrades that held positions were discharged. I

am glad he is here, and I have the pleasure of introducing to you Tom Lawler, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Commander-in-Chief Lawler: Commander Van Sant and Comrades of this great state of Minnesota, I am glad to be here with you today. It certainly is a pleasure and a privilege for me to come here to the Department of Minnesota while you are in your annual convention and look you in the faces, take you by the hands, and, if possible, speak words of encouragement to you. I remember early in 1861 before the regiment that I was connected with left Chicago, of standing on the Van Buren street bridge—the old bridge—and seeing a regiment of as fine a body of men as I ever saw marching to the Michigan Southern Depot, and I inquired who they were, and they said it was the First Minnesota. (Applause and cries of "good.") I never have seen, physically, as fine a body of men as those men were. But you had other regiments that distinguished themselves. I know we were relieved a short time afterwards, or in the fall, at Lebanon Junction, by the Second Minnesota; and then I remember your Third Minnesota; and I remember fighting under one of your citizens here, Gen. R. W. Johnston, at Stone River (applause); and I remember Van Cleve's Division; but the Grand Army of the Republic does not belong to any state, or any army, or any corps. We were strangers, many of us, during that time, but in that grand organization of ours we stand shoulder to shoulder—standing up for the principles for which you men gave the best three to five years of your lives in the defense of the old flag. (Applause.) It is a grand organization; it is the same everywhere. By instruction from several departments that I have had the pleasure of meeting on this trip, I bring to you their greetings. I started out with the first department that met during this year at Brattleborough, Vermont; and then I went to Providence and Newport, Rhode Island; and Nassau, New Hampshire; and Middletown, Delaware; Trenton, New Jersey, and away up

almost to the Canadian line to Skowhegan, Maine, and then down in Massachusetts, and from there down to Edwards, Maryland, and then to the Department of the Potomac, and then away out West to the Kansas Jayhawkers; and everywhere I go I find this spirit of comradeship bringing us closer together. They say, as I leave each encampment, "When you go to the next Encampment give them our congratulations, and say that we are with them just so long as we live; and I find that you are about the same looking fellows that I find everywhere else. (Commander Van Sant: A little better.) (Laughter.) Well, if I was blindfolded and dropped from one Department down into another, I could not tell which Department I was with. We are all getting to look the same, getting the same complexion and color, the same sympathetic natures, for I say that the Grand Army of the Republic never was so closely linked together in fraternity as they are today. The old memories and ties bring us closer together. We live somewhat in the past, it is true, when we come together and talk of the old days, but we have interests in the present—we have hopes of the future, and the work of the Grand Army of the Republic is not finished. Your Commander has alluded to an interview that I had, or tried to have with the President of the United States, and I did not see him for reasons well known, perhaps, to some of you. (Laughter.) However, the other day I did see him, and I called his attention to the fact that this great army that he mentions—he said it was a grand army, and said it was a great body of men to be Commander-in-Chief of; and I said to myself, "Old fellow, if you could only wear that little button; but with all the salary you are getting you could not buy it. (Applause.) And I called attention to the resolutions that were passed by the Twenty-Eighth Annual Encampment, and I said, "That body of men will want to know from me whether you saw fit to answer even the communication." He said, "Oh, yes, I will remember, and you shall hear from me." So I expect to hear from it in some way; I

am watching the course of events. But that does not concern the great mass of men so much as the position taken by the pension department in regard to the law of 1890. When we stop to consider that many of the men now, who, when they ought to have been learning trades or professions, have become so old that they are thrust aside and cannot compete with younger men in the walks of life, and the people of this government through their representatives in Congress passed the bill which placed every man who had not been wounded or who had not contracted disease during the service, as required by the old law, who had no hospital record, but by circumstances have become so crippled by rheumatism, by disease, by old age, that he is no longer able to compete in the walks of life, the Government said you shall have a pension from three to six and twelve dollars a month, and it was granted. To thousands of our comrades it was the means of keeping the old men with their old wives together during the few remaining years of their lives. (Applause.) It was the means of keeping him from going to a soldiers' home, because it would pay his rent, and in some way he would work enough, if possible, during the month to keep life together. Then a great government, a government that these men had saved—(applause) and I find everywhere I go, it is not a new thing—it is not something of a year or two years ago, but it is going right on now—these men receiving notices that their pension is cut from twelve dollars to eight dollars; those receiving eight dollars, cut to six dollars; and I say it is a shame, and the Grand Army of the Republic desires to say to these men that you must make up the deficiency in some other way; you cannot make it up by cutting off the paltry sum that is keeping life in the bodies of the men that saved this country and made it possible for us to have a treasury. If they are not entitled to what the law has given them, then they are not entitled to anything—cut it all off and be honest about it, but do not steal from two to four dollars a month from these poor old fellows. (Applause.) Now I

am not going to take much of your time; I understand I will have a chance to talk to you this evening, and I know you have got business to attend to. That is what you are here for, and I am glad you are getting along so well. You have had a splendid year. I have watched the proceedings of this Department, through the work of its officers, its Commander and Assistant Adjutant-General, and I am glad that they have been making a grand round through this Department. This is what will keep a Department alive. I want to say another thing. As we are growing older I know it is going to be harder for us to keep up this great organization to such magnificent numbers as it is today; but in the larger cities we can keep up the posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, and these men who cannot ride eight, or ten, or twenty miles to attend post meetings can come in here Memorial Day and meet with the people who belong to the posts. And I tell you, comrades, I want to speak a word for the old fellows that are not able to pay dues. I am not saying a word for the man who will not—fire him out! (Applause.) But the old men who helped build up this organization in its early days who are willing today to contribute if they could—I say do not suspend a man until you have investigated his case. He will probably not come and tell you that he cannot pay his dues; but for God's sake do not turn him down; keep him in the post. He would rather be in the post meeting where he can talk over the old events with you, and above all, knowing that when he dies that the Grand Army will honor him by its presence, and that he will receive a soldier's burial and that floating over his remains will be the flag for which he fought and suffered. Comrades, let us keep every man in the ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic. It has an influence, too, in shaping legislation in favor of the men that saved this Republic. We are not asking for any new legislation now; but we are simply saying, "The laws are good as they are, but by the Eternal we shall insist that they shall be maintained and carried

out in this respect just as much as we say to men carrying any other flag in this country, 'you shall honor the flag of this country.'" We say to them: "We shall honor the law as it is, and we shall insist upon its right interpretation, and that the comrades be given what the law intends they shall receive." We ask nothing more; we will take nothing less. (Applause.) And now, comrades, I know you are in the midst of an election, and I am glad it is so harmonious here. You are getting along swimmingly. You know how it is in an election in this body; you will fight and have your say and you will think that you are just going to kill that fellow when you get him on the outside, but just as soon as you do get him on the outside you take him by the hand and we are comrades again for another year. (Applause.) We can have our preferences, but we have no differences. We stand upon those three great principles that have made our order so great—fraternity, charity and loyalty to the old flag and the government. (Great and prolonged applause.)

Commander Van Sant: About the only complaint I have received was my good appointment of an Adjutant-General (laughter), and I want to say that the National Commander followed my example by doing the same thing. (Laughter.) He has appointed a good Adjutant-General. You know I am an old steamboat man and the Adjutant-General should know something about water. The Commander-in-Chief has got an excellent judge of water with him. I am now going to introduce you to the Adjutant-General of the Grand Army of the Republic, Comrade C. C. Jones, who will now address you.

Adjutant-General of the G. A. R.—(Stepping forward to Comrade Mertz)—Mertz, shake hands. I ought to know a good deal about water as all of my service was in the United States navy. Commander, I want to thank you for the privilege of being presented to this Department; it is a pleasure and an honor to be here before you today, and I appreciate it. There is one little matter that the Commander-in-Chief spoke of which I wish to emphasize,

that is, the delinquent list being increased so largely during the past year. When I left the National Headquarters there were fifteen departments that had reported, and of the number of members reported ten per cent were on the delinquent list. Now, that is a very large number. Out of the fifteen departments two and a half per cent have crossed the river during the past six months. At that ratio there will ten regiments have passed over during the past six months, that is, from July to January. The Commander-in-Chief, in "General order No. 7," calls attention to this fact and urges the appointment in every post of a delinquent committee whose duty it shall be to see every member who is on the suspended roll and reinstate him. I hope that this will be taken up in every post in the Department of Minnesota, and during the next six months that we will have a good deal better showing. I suggest this at this time to the Adjutants of the posts that are here present that they will give prompt responses, so that the Adjutant General can get out a good report for the National Encampment at Louisville in September. I hope Minnesota will be largely represented in Louisville. We were there in December making arrangements and I will say that I never saw so much enthusiasm exhibited in all my life as we saw in Louisville, and I am sure that we will receive a royal welcome there in September. The railroads have made a one-cent-a-mile rate, making this a general rate all over. Hotel rates will not be raised, but the accommodations will be doubled—where they put two in a room, they will put four, but the rate will be the same. Tickets going down one way will be good returning on other roads, and the citizens generally are vieing with one another to make this one of the grandest encampments that we have had. I hope Minnesota will be largely represented at that time. I will not take up any more of your time; I will see you again during the day.

Commander Van Sant: I also have the pleasure of introducing to you today Quarter Master General Burst.

Quarter Master General Burst: Mr. Commander and Comrades of the Department of Minnesota: I am a little bit embarrassed here for the reason that I am the other fellow; also for another reason: Your Department Commander said here that you were the best looking congregation of defenders of the flag that was ever got together on an occasion of this kind. Well I could stand that pretty well, but the Commander-in-Chief rises with supreme authority and said that we were all getting to look alike; and then I was led to wonder as to why it was true, not feeling disposed to take issue with these gentlemen on the proposition. I think I have solved the problem. I wish all who served in Illinois regiments would stand up. (Several in the audience and two or three on the platform arose.) That accounts for it, Mr. Commander. (Loud applause and laughter.) (Commander Van Sant: Have a drink on that.) Now, that is the reason, comrades, that you look so much like our old settlers down in Illinois—because we are a part of it. But do not let this make you feel too gay, because I want to give you now a comparison as to just how you stand in this galaxy of this Grand Army organization, and in order that you may not forget your position I will just illustrate it by reciting a little incident connected with my service.

While the army was near Lookout Mountain in the spring of 1864, Gen. Harrison, our late president, was the commander of my brigade, and he detailed a Captain Williams of his regiment, the Seventh Indiana, to make a brigade inspection. Williams was a typical Hoosier, a man who had had no educational advantages in his youth. What he was he had made of himself, but he was one of the best soldiers that ever buckled on a sword. He made his inspection, and he made one of the most thorough inspections we had ever witnessed in that brigade. Taking some pride in the regiment, I went to brigade headquarters when his report was submitted, and I found that he said in his report, "The 105th Illinois is the best gol durned regiment in this whole brigade, and all the others

are equally as good." (Loud applause and laughter.) Now, that is just where you stand in the Department of the Grand Army (applause), and I am glad to be with you upon this occasion, and I am glad to find you looking so happy, and such a splendid representation and such a splendid Department. The Commander-in-Chief has gone well over the ground of the practical operation and working of the organization; the Adjutant-General has called your attention to the membership of the organization and to the reports of our officers, and I find that the Quarter Master General has very little to do or say, excepting that when I took charge of the Commander-in-Chief and Adjutant-General they were frail, shadowy little fellows, and in six months I am able to report them in their present condition (loud applause), and I trust to continue the improvement to the end of the term. I always admired the comrades in this department because, take it over your state, outside of your cities, you are scattered over a broad expanse of territory, and keeping up your membership and keeping up your post organizations is attended with very much more effort on your part than it is in some other states and you are entitled to great credit. While in the South I met the commander of the Department of Texas, and I found there the typical Grand Army man. Men living out on those broad prairies down there told me themselves and submitted evidence that made it absolutely certain that they were telling the truth, that they, during the summer months would get on to a broncho or a mustang and ride once a month sixty miles for the purpose of attending a post meeting (applause), and they said those are the bright days in the year for us. And there was another little matter in which they were interested, that was after the agitation of floating the flag over the educational institutions of the North. It occurred to the comrades in Texas that they would take up that work, and they were informed in some sections by gentlemen who outnumbered them that they had seen enough of the Ameri-

can flag, and they guessed they had not better put it up. The women of the Relief Corps said, "Boys, you have fought your battles; you had our sympathy and support; you have it yet; but we will see to it that those flags go up on those school houses." (Applause). Don't you make any mistake about it, the flags are there. (Applause). Now these same women have become auxillary to the Grand Army all over this fair land of ours. You and I know what magnificent work they are doing for the comrades that are falling by the way. How well many of us remember when, lying in the hospitals down there deprived of the necessaries to make our condition more comfortable, when you saw the door open and one of these grand women who had come down and followed the army, and in a measure alleviated our sufferings, when she walked into that door and laid her hand gently on the head lying suffering on that cot, it seemed as though an angel had appeared; and from that day to this the loyal women of this country have been following you and me and this organization that we love so well. They have been doing more for us than we realize. In many localities in the country were it not for the organization of the Woman's Relief Corps, many posts would have long ago had to surrender their charter and abandon their organization; but the women walk up and say, "We have got the money to pay your rent, and just so long as we have this organization although composed of but three members, shall retain its organization." We have an auxiliary there that is rendering a service to those who need only such service as women can render, better than it would be possible for us to do; but they can go on with this noble and patriotic work for all time, because the loyal women of America are eligible to membership; and just so long as this country lives, loyal women will live. And then there are the Sons of Veterans, one word for them. We have been derelict in our duty to them. When we attempted the organization of what we then called the Grand Army what a miserable

failure we made of it. We went to ruin, and then we gathered ourselves together and we reorganized, and you can remember what an effort it required. You remember that we had to persuade them year in and year out before we got them in with us. These Sons of Veterans have started their organization; they are struggling along in many of our localities but in others, because of our neglect, they have disbanded. It is because you and I have not done our duty to them. We should go into their meetings, we should counsel with them and we should show them how necessary it is to live strictly up to the rules of the organization in order to make a success of their organization and make it prosperous and strong. By so doing in a little while, only a little while when we are gone, those boys will occupy the position that you are occupying today and will see to it that Old Glory is the banner of liberty. (Loud applause).

Commander Van Sant: I am going to call on Comrade Roper, chief of staff to the commander in chief.

Q. M. Gen. Burst: I made Roper's speech. (Laughter).

Comrade Roper: Commander and Comrades: I am laboring under a great disadvantage. Now I have come fresh from my home, while the commander-in-chief and his quarter master general and adjutant general have been roaming around over the country, and they have fed on terrapin and lobster sauce and things of that kind and have got kind of thoroughly warmed up. I do not know how in the world Comrade Van Sant got it into his head that Jones was a water-dog. The commander explained it to me this morning—he cannot carry anything. (Applause and laughter). He started out from New York with several jugs—that's right—the finest old rye that you ever saw in your life, packed in his dressing case with the clothes of all the other officers. A short time out on their journey every jug was gone but one, and the handle of that one was gone. (Laughter). I am not keyed up to that point. It will take a little

warming; but I think by tonight I will be up where I can reach you. (Applause).

Commander Van Sant: While we should like to keep these comrades with us they have got a very urgent call—the ladies want them to visit the Relief Corps—and we are going to excuse them for a few moments. I will say that there will be a reception tendered to the commander-in-chief and his staff by the comrades of this department at the Commercial Club. We should like you to meet him there when you can take him by the hand and have a chat with him.

Commander-in-Chief Lawler: Before I go I want to say to you that in several of the departments, while they were in session, telegrams were received inviting them to come to St. Paul for the encampment in 1896. I have heard of no other place mentioned except St. Paul. (Applause). I think it is generally conceded, by the Eastern departments at least, that Maryland is going to make a struggle for the encampment in '97. They have already begun laying the foundation for a great exposition to be held in Baltimore in that year, and they are going to invite the Grand Army of the Republic there during the year of '97. As has been stated here, this year we are going to Louisville. I want the delegates and want this department to get down there, not because you are going to have any difficulty in securing the encampment in '96, for I believe you are going to get it without very great effort, but it is the entering wedge.

The aides then escorted the commander and his staff to the outer hall.

Comrade Becker, Post 21, St. Paul: I want to say that the People's Church will be open for the public at 7:15, and in order to handle this large crowd it will be necessary that all who hold tickets shall arrive there between 7:15 and 8 o'clock in order to get their seats. All those not occupied by 8 o'clock or after will be taken by someone else.

Commander Van Sant: I have one other treat in store

for you. Department Commander Carpenter, of South Dakota, is here. I now have the pleasure of introducing him.

Commander Carpenter, of South Dakota: Commander and Comrades: I am glad to meet the comrades of this department, and I am proud that I have a place in the greatest organization on earth—the Grand Army of the Republic. I am not going to make a speech; I simply want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this opportunity of meeting you. Come up to Dakota to our department encampment at the state capital in Pierre the first week in June, and we will give you a right royal welcome.

Commander Van Sant: We will now take up the regular order of our business, which is the election of a junior vice commander.

Comrade Morey, Post No. 22, Minneapolis: For the position of junior vice commander I desire to second the nomination of Comrade E. B. Wood, of Long Prairie.

Comrade Trowbridge, Post No. 4, Minneapolis: Thus far in our proceedings this morning this encampment has done excellently. We have elected one of the greatest men from the greatest city in this state commander for the next twelve months. We have made another excellent selection from the second city in the state for the office of senior vice. (Applause). Now, sir, as a resident of one of these great cities, I desire to speak a word for the comrade that lives out on the prairie. I know something, Mr. Commander, what it costs to be a Grand Army man away out on the prairie where men have to go thirty and forty and sometimes fifty miles to feel the touch of the elbow. There has been presented to this encampment this morning the name of a comrade who is fully qualified to do the duty that will be enjoined upon that officer if he is elected to that honorable position. I rise in my place, therefore, to second the nomination of Comrade E. B. Wood.

Comrade Scarf, Post No. 95, Pipestone: I move that'

the assistant adjutant general be instructed to cast the ballot for E. B. Wood, of Long Prairie, as junior vice commander of this department.

Motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Assistant Adjutant General Mertz: The assistant adjutant general hereby casts the ballot for Comrade E. B. Wood for junior vice department commander for the ensuing year.

(Cries of "Wood, Wood.")

A Comrade: He is another cavalryman; he is a little slow, but he'll get there. (Laughter and applause).

Commander Van Sant: You are about the most unanimous crowd I ever saw.

Comrade Wood: Commander and Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic: I hasten to thank you for the great honor that you have conferred upon me, and I want to assure you that I highly appreciate that honor. And I want to say further that I shall do all that I possibly can to assist in building up and keeping the Grand Army of the Republic of this state at its present high standing. But I want to say this further: That however your department officers may plan, it is for you to execute. You remember that during the war that, however the officers might plan the battle; however they might issue their orders, it depended upon the rank and file to execute those orders, to fight the battles. The victories were only possible because the private soldier made it so by doing his duty. (Applause). And so it lays with you to make this year a success or not. It is for the men at their homes and in their postroom to make the Grand Army of the Republic in this state a success. That man who brings a comrade to the post who otherwise would not come; that man who assists a comrade who is back in his dues and who counsels that comrade and makes his post of the Grand Army of the Republic a respectable institution in his community and assists in building up this great work (applause); these are the ones that make the Grand Army of the Republic a respectable

institution. You must remember that if we are successful the Grand Army of the Republic must be in harmony with other respectable and successful institutions, and it depends upon you to make it so. I thank you, comrades, again. (Applause).

Commander Van Sant: The next order is the election of a chaplain.

Comrade Martin, Post 67, Detroit: As I listened to the report of our present chaplain I had no fault to find, and I nominate for re-election Comrade Bilbie and move that the adjutant general cast the vote of this convention for him.

Motion seconded, and carried unanimously.

Assistant Adjutant General Mertz: I hereby cast the ballot for Comrade Bilbie for chaplain of this department for the ensuing year.

(Cries of speech).

Comrade Bilbie: Mr. Commander and Comrades: I wish I had eloquent words to thank you for the honor which, for the fifth time, has been conferred upon me. I have done my best to serve you during these years. I intend to do still better if I can. I have a growing respect for the Grand Army of the Republic. I look into faces of men who were loyal under trying circumstances; but I wish to say to you that, in my opinion, the majority of you are doing better as the years go by than you did in the '60s. I believe though, in this comradeship, we have men who are pledged to principles of virtue and morality, as a rule; men who are elevating the standing of morals in our loved country, and I believe that this will continue to be the case as long as the order exists. In the beginning of my connection with you in this capacity I used to think that it might be well that I should give you some words of encouragement along this upward way; but now I congratulate you on your intentions not only to maintain the flag but the morals of this country as well. May God help you so to do, and help us now to do the best work that has ever been

done for our country and for our homes. (Loud applause.)

Commander Van Sant: The next in order is the election of a medical director.

A Comrade: I rise to place in nomination a comrade who has done his duty well. I have talked with the old soldiers who have come in contact with him in his official capacity and they all feel satisfied with him as surgeon of the department. I take great pleasure in nominating Dr. J. M. Tucker, of Hastings.

A Comrade: I second the nomination and move that the adjutant general cast the vote of this encampment for Comrade Tucker.

The motion was put and carried amid loud applause.

Commander Van Sant: The assistant adjutant general will cast the ballot for Comrade Tucker.

Assistant Adjutant General Mertz: The assistant adjutant general casts the vote of this encampment for Comrade Tucker as medical director of this department for the ensuing year.

(Cries of "Tucker, Tucker," and "old man Tucker.")

A Comrade: "It is not "Old Man Tucker," it is Comrade Tucker.

Medical Director Elect Tucker: "Old Man Tucker" has come, comrades, and I appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me, still I had thought that it would be best for you to take another course this year. The reason why is because, to tell you the truth, I have entered the service again. I have been mustered in for another five years. It came about something in this way: The boys got up a company of National Guards down at Hastings and three of my boys went into it. While I felt that I might be excused from any further service, when the company came and unanimously asked me to take command I consented, so I could look after the boys. Comrade Van Sant and the good men up at the state legislature, have just passed an appropriation of some thousands of dollars for the National Guards and I ex-

pect to have quite a scramble for the next five years in securing what belongs to my company, so I shall be fighting with and for the boys, and if I accept this office at the same time, I shall have to be administering quinine and spirits of frumenti to the old boys. But if you consider me equal to the task I will accept it and do the best I can in both places. I return you my sincere thanks for your endorsement.

Commander Van Sant: Doing splendidly, comrades. The next is our council of administration, election of five members.

A Comrade: I make the motion that the old council be re-elected.

A Comrade: I move you that the adjutant general cast the vote of this encampment for the outgoing members.

Comrade Baker, Post No. 19, Mankato: I wish to place in nomination a comrade who has several times given way to other parties. John G. Graham, of Good-thunder, a man of marked ability as a business man. No man stands higher in the order than he does, and I would like to see him, and I know there are a number of others here who would like to see him, placed in nomination for that position in addition to the others.

Commander Van Sant: Are there any further nominations?

Comrade Kelly, Post No. 119, Minneapolis: There has been a great deal of agitation with regard to these comrades who have been holding positions on the council. Now, I would move that two members of the council of administration be retired this year, and two new ones elected, and so on every year; that two new members be elected to that board every year beginning with this. I make that as a motion.

Motion seconded and lost.

Comrade Miller: While we have no doubt that the old board are satisfactory in the work that they have already performed, yet we realize the fact that there are

other members of this department who would like to serve the Grand Army of the Republic in this department, at least one term, in some position and I would put in nomination for a member of the council of administration Comrade W. G. Tenbrook, of Duluth.

A Comrade: I place in nomination Verdine Truesdale.

Nomination was seconded.

Comrade Higgins: I nominate C. H. Mix, of Crookston.

Nomination seconded.

A Comrade: I place in nomination Thos. Montgomery.

Nomination received a second.

Comrade Foster: I would move that each of the individuals now represented on the Council of Administration be placed in nomination.

Motion seconded and carried.

A Comrade: I call for the reading of the names of the comrades who have been placed in nomination.

Assistant Adjutant-General Mertz: They are as follows: Thos. Montgomery, R. C. Livingston, J. M. D. Craft, Perry Starkweather, L. W. Collins, J. G. Graham, C. H. Mix, W. G. Ten Brook and Verndine Truesdale.

Comrade Baker: I wish to offer the following resolution at this time:

Resolved, that this Encampment cordially extend to our esteemed comrade, General J. H. Mullin, now lying on a bed of pain and suffering, our warmest sympathy and love, and we earnestly hope that a kind Providence will yet restore him to health to future usefulness, and the continued society of those who are dear to his heart.

and I move the adoption of the resolution by a rising vote.

Motion seconded and adopted.

Commander Van Sant: I now have the pleasure of introducing to this audience a delegation of ladies from the Auxiliary of the G. A. R., the Woman's Relief Corps. I take pleasure in presenting the chairman of that committee, Mrs. Norton, who will now address you.

Mrs. Norton: Commander and Comrades of the Encampment: We have been delegated by the Woman's Relief Corps to bring greetings from our convention to your Encampment to-day. We extend to you our fraternal and most cordial greetings. We wish to assure you, comrades, in the performance of this very agreeable duty, of our lasting and unswerving allegiance to the Grand Army of the Republic. We say to you that we are proud to be auxiliary of the most magnificent and praiseworthy organization in our land, and that we come with greetings of honor for you, the chivalry of America. We bring special greetings to you, Commander Van Sant, in recognition of your loyal and soldierly sympathy throughout your administration, and we pledge to you, Commander and comrades, that our hearts shall never grow cold, nor our hands refuse to work so long as a veteran of the Union army, his widow or orphan, shall need our helping hand. (Applause.)

Commander Van Sant: I next have the pleasure of presenting a lady whom you all know; it is Mrs. Mary E. Leavens, several times president of the Woman's Relief Corps of the Department of Minnesota.

Mrs. Mary E. Leavens: Mr. Commander and Comrades: I am not going to speak long, I will tell you that to begin with. I am told every day of my life by my husband, that I talk too much, but I know that there is this much about it; that he would never have married me if I had been born deaf and dumb. And then, besides, what a loss it would have been—I could not have heard him talk. (Laughter.) I am very glad

to be with you. This is the first time that I have been permitted to attend a Grand Army Encampment, and I am very glad to come to-day. Mrs. Norton has presented the greetings of the Relief Corps, and I surely think I have some interest in your work, having been connected with the Relief Corps work so long as I have, and I am going to continue in it I hope. We will not take up your time for we know you are very busy. You may feel a good deal as the man did who spoke in prayer meeting. He said, after he closed his remarks, "Now, brothers, don't let any time go to waste except what the minister takes." (Applause and laughter.)

Commander Van Sant: I am glad I am not a minister. (Laughter.) I next introduce Mrs. Milham.

Mrs. Milham: Mr. Commander and Comrades: Like my predecessors this has been my first opportunity to visit this grand body of men, and I assure you we all feel delighted if we do not have anything to say. I am not much of a talker myself although I have been in this business for over ten years. I have noticed that when a committee visits our Encampment, the third or last one on the committee has very little to say; if you will excuse me I will just pledge our allegiance and loyalty to the cause. (Applause.)

The committee here started to retire.

Commander Van Sant: Be seated, I wish to say a word to you. (Applause.) I want to say to you, ladies, that we are more than glad to have you come here and bring fraternal greetings—these kind words. We recognize the Woman's Relief Corps as the grand auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. They are our sisters, our co-workers in the great cause of carrying happiness to the homes of these old veterans, their widows and orphans, and we can say, from full hearts, God bless you in your noble and splendid work. (Loud applause.)

Commander Van Sant: The following communication, from the Ladies Aid Societies, will now be read by the Assistant Adjutant General.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Feb. 28th, 1895.

To the Officers and Members of the G. A. R. Encampment:

Accept, in F.. C. and L., the greetings of the Ladies' Aid Society, auxiliary to the Sons of Veterans, Div. of Minnesota.

Assuring you of our continual love and esteem for your grand organization, we extend to you the right hand of fellowship, and remember that hand will never tire of assisting the G. A. R. as well as our own order, to whom we are auxiliary.

Yours, in F., C. and L.,

ADDIE B. BAKER,

Div. Secretary.

SARAH E. LYONS,

Div. President.

Commander Van Sant: We will now take a recess until two o'clock this afternoon.

SECOND DAY—CLOSING SESSION.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1895.

Pursuant to adjournment the Encampment was called to order promptly at 2 o'clock p. m.

Commander Van Sant: I will name Comrades Trowbridge, Abel and Goff, as tellers in the election of members of the Council of Administration. They will take up the ballots as soon as we get them ready. We will wait a few minutes so that we will have a full vote and an honest count. That committee will come forward and get their hats ready.

Comrade Beden, Post No. 4, Minneapolis: I move that a committee of three be appointed by the Commander to send fraternal greetings to the ladies of the G. A. R.

Motion was seconded and upon being put, prevailed.

Commander Van Sant: I will appoint as such committee Comrades Beden, Stratton and Mix. I will just state now, so that there will be no mistake made, that each comrade is entitled to vote for five members on one ticket, and the five receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected. You vote for five comrades on that ballot which you put into the hat.

Comrade Stratton: I have been compelled to absent myself from the greater portion of the sessions, and I shall be compelled to go away about half past two this afternoon, and while the duty is a very pleasant one I hope you will excuse me from acting on that committee.

Commander Van Sant: I appointed you on account of your good looks. I will appoint in the place of Comrade Stratton, Comrade Bullard, an old river man. Comrade Beden is chairman of the committee and he will call you together in a few moments. We want a full vote on this Council of Administration so we will wait a few minutes.

Q. M. Gen. Leavens: I wish to speak about one thing and that is in regard to mileage. All who are entitled to mileage will get it in the room below. One from each post, the senior delegate, is entitled to mileage.

Commander Van Sant: Now, have all voted who wish to? The members of the committee will please meet on the stage. If all have voted I will announce the polls as closed.—Here is one more, the tellers will receive that. The tellers will now retire to the room in the rear and we trust that they will come out a little later and announce the result of the ballot. I am requested to read this announcement; it is a very good one:

That in the future the Commanders of District Encampments be requested to send to the Assistant Adjutant-General before the first day of May, in each year, such date as they prefer for their

District Encampment, and that the Adjutant-General, with the advice of his Commander, then fix such dates for District Encampments throughout the state as will not clash with each other, so far as possible giving due regard to the wishes of each District.

Commander Van Sant: That, I presume, is more in the shape of a notice than anything else.

Comrade Mears, Post No. 56, Staples: I move that that be made the rule of this encampment.

Motion was seconded and upon being put was carried.

Comrade Schaefer, St. Cloud: I offer the following resolution.

Resolved, that the salary of the Assistant Adjutant-General for the ensuing year be fixed in the sum of One Thousand Dollars.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Commander Van Sant: We are on the election of officers. We have two delegates at large to elect, and it will be in order now to select them.

Comrade Kelly: I desire to place in nomination Comrade Merriam, of Butler Post, Minneapolis, for this reason: I know that if he is elected he will attend the Encampment.

A Comrade: I second the nomination. I know that there are a great many delegates to come before this Encampment, and when the time arrives to go to the National Encampment they do not go. Now, this candidate will surely go if he is elected.

A Comrade: We not only want to elect him because he will go, but because he is a suitable man when he gets there.

Comrade Taylor, Post No. 68, Minneapolis: I move that the Adjutant-General cast the ballot for Comrade Merriam at large.

Motion seconded and carried.

Assistant Adjutant-General Mertz: The Assistant Adjutant General casts the vote of this Encampment for Comrade Merriam as delegate at large to the National Encampment.

A Comrade: I desire to place in nomination Comrade J. H. Davidson.

Nomination was seconded.

Comrade Davidson: I had the honor last year; I do not want it this year.

A Comrade: I desire to nominate a comrade from outside these two cities who goes to all of these Encampments. I desire to place in nomination Comrade Edwin Dunn, of Eyota, Olmstead county.

Nomination was seconded.

A Comrade: I desire to place in nomination Gideon S. Ives.

Nomination was seconded.

A Comrade: I have the honor of nominating J. A. Peck, of Wabasha.

Nomination was seconded.

A Comrade: I will present the name of a comrade who will be there anyway—never known to fail—C. W. McKay, of Fergus Falls.

A Comrade: I nominate C. G. Hunt, of Minneapolis.

Nomination was seconded.

A Comrade: Are there any more from Minneapolis? (Laughter.)

Comrade Hunt: Comrades: If I have any friends in the Encampment who desire to cast a vote for me as delegate at large, I hope they will cast that vote for some comrade outside of these two cities.

Commander Van Sant: Good boy.

Comrade Becker: The committee appointed last evening, or yesterday, present the following report.

The Department of Minnesota Grand Army of the Republic in its Fifteenth Annual Encampment, at St. Paul, Minn., February 27th and 28th, 1895, remembering the fact that since its last meeting, our beloved Comrade and Past Commander, Charles D. Parker, on the 29th day of September, at his home in St. Anthony Park, received his final discharge from life's enlistment, and desiring in a special manner to record its high estimate of his faithful and efficient services, as a Comrade and Commander of the Department, and the unfaltering patriotism and loyalty, which were chief elements of his character, therefore be it

Resolved, that in the death of Charles D. Parker, the Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, has lost a true and tried comrade and a devoted lover of our Order, his cheery presence and valued counsel will be greatly missed. We cherish his memory, and in his far off resting place may the grass above his grave have brighter, fresher tints, and the air about it a sunnier hue. By reason of the love and esteem in which he was held by his comrades,

Resolved, that we tender his wife and children our sincere sympathy. May He who notes the fall of a sparrow be their comforter.

Resolved, that a page in our Journal of Proceedings be set apart for his photograph, and that these resolutions be made a part of our official record, and the Assistant Adjutant-General be instructed to send a copy to his family.

The resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

Commander Van Sant here called Senior Vice Commander Reed to the chair.

Comrade Becker: Now, comrades and Commander, I would like to say a few words to those present. The committee have not been able to put his military record, but they will add that to this resolution. And then there is another thing that I want to bring before this Encampment. Comrade Parker, while Commander of the Department, had his picture enlarged and placed in the room of Department headquarters. His family would very much like to have a copy of the same, and I think it would be a very nice thing for this Depart-

ment to do at this time,—get a copy of it and present it to his family. I will add that to the resolution and make a motion to that effect. It will cost about eight dollars to do that.

Senior Vice-Commander Reed: What will you do with the resolution, comrades?

A Comrade: I move that the resolution be adopted.

Motion was seconded, put and carried.

Comrade Scheffer, Post 21, St. Paul: Our good comrade, Uncle Sam, is not only a little slow in doing the right thing by the pensioners of the Government, but is also somewhat slow in giving promotions in the regular army, especially if the officers holding the positions were originally from the volunteer service. At the request of many of my comrades, both from St. Paul and Minneapolis and other cities of the State, I desire to lay before you a resolution, and I ask your unanimous endorsement of the same.

WHEREAS, the honorable record of Col. E. C. Mason, Third United States Infantry, Brevet Brigadier General, U. S. A., during the war of the Rebellion, his long frontier service since the war, and his high personal character as a soldier and a citizen have combined to create for him a feeling of hearty admiration among the comrades of the State where he has been stationed for several years past; and

WHEREAS, the principle of duly honoring conspicuous war service in making promotions in the regular army may be most appropriately carried out in this case by giving deserved recognition to a gallant volunteer officer, whose record has been uniformly meritorious throughout his entire military career, therefore

Resolved, by the Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, in Encampment assembled, that we respectfully and earnestly request that Col. E. C. Mason be promoted to the next vacancy in the rank of Brigadier General, as a well earned acknowledgment of distinguished merit, and a grateful compliment to the volunteer soldier of the Republic.

Comrade Mahan: I move the adoption of the resolution by a rising vote.

Motion carried unanimously.

Comrade Davidson, Post No. 21, St. Paul: I have a matter that I want to bring before you for your endorsement. Josiah R. King has the honor of being the first to enlist in the army of the United States in the war of the rebellion, and in order to recognize his patriotism, and that which prompted him to so quickly go forward, the Legislature has adopted a joint resolution which is somewhat in the form of a memorial asking Congress to make him First Lieutenant of the regular army and place him upon the retired list in recognition of his services. I will read the resolution.

WHEREAS, Comrade Josiah R. King, of Acker Post No. 21, G. A. R. Department of Minnesota, was the first man to enlist in the service of the United States on the day that Fort Sumpter was fired upon, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Minnesota has adopted a joint resolution, addressed to Congress, asking that he be appointed a First Lieutenant in the regular army of the United States, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the G. A. R. Department of Minnesota, in annual Encampment assembled, most heartily add their recommendation to that already made by the Legislature of Minnesota, viz: That Josiah R. King be made a First Lieutenant of the regular army of the United States, and be placed upon the retired list; and that our representatives in Congress be respectfully asked to procure the necessary legislation to this end, and that copies hereof be furnished the president and our members of Congress.

A Comrade: I move the adoption of this resolution.

Motion seconded.

Comrade Davidson: The comrade I think is not present in the hall. He is a very modest man. I know some of his comrades are here, members of the Post that I am Commander of—Acker Post. It would be simply a recognition of our old soldier comrades.

Comrade Scheffer: I wish to say that Col. King was made Orderly Sergeant of Company "A" First Minnesota Volunteers and served for three years in that regiment. He was finally promoted to Lieutenant in the regular army and served until about eight years after

the war when, on account of health, he retired from the service, and it is asking very little of this great country to place him on the retired list.

Senior Vice-Commander Reed: I will follow the precedent of the Commander and declare it passed.

Commander Van Sant (having just come in): Learning fast. As it is almost conceded that St. Paul will have the National Encampment in '96, the committee, or some members of the committee, ask that this resolution be adopted in order to assist them in procuring the proper rates from railroad companies for those attending the Encampment.

WHEREAS, the railroad companies of this country have generously granted to the old soldiers attending the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, the rate of one cent per mile for the distance traveled, therefore

Resolved, that we respectfully request that the Western Trunk Line Passenger Committee will give some assurance at this time that the same rate will be granted to the old soldiers, providing the Encampment will be held in St. Paul in 1896, as we deem such action is necessary to secure the Encampment for St. Paul.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Adjutant to D. B. Caldwell, chairman Western Passenger Trunk Line Passenger Committee, Rookery Building, Chicago, Ill.

Commander Van Sant: The committee recommend the adoption of the resolution.

Motion for the adoption of the resolution was seconded, put and carried.

Commander Barto, chairman of Committee on Resolutions: This is a resolution that perhaps every one of you, at least every one living outside of the two cities, is very much interested in. You know that I have for several years had a little scrap with some of my best friends with regard to this soldiers' relief fund, that is to go out to the soldiers and their wives and little ones on the frontier. Two years ago they, against my protest, authorized the Legislature of the State, or the Auditor rather, to transfer whatever money was in

the relief fund to the general fund at the end of each fiscal year. The result has been that the relief fund has been exhausted. Now this resolution provides for a repeal of that law by which it was authorized, putting the relief fund back where it ought to have been all the time to help the boys out on the frontier.

Resolved, by the Annual Encampment, Department of Minnesota, Grand Army of the Republic, that the Legislature of the State of Minnesota be, and it is hereby urgently and respectfully requested to repeal the Act approved April 14, 1893, being Chapter 11 of the General Laws for the year 1893, directing the transfer of monies from the soldiers' relief fund to the general revenue fund at the close of each fiscal year—the said law having been found, in operation, to work hardship and injustice to the needy veterans of the State.

Motion for the adoption of the resolution was seconded and carried.

Comrade Barto: This is one matter which touched me more forcibly than anything that has occurred during this Encampment—this relief fund. I was not aware of this state of things—that there really had been a bill passed turning that over to the general fund. I thought that was defeated.

Commander Van Sant: I have to announce that the Colonel commanding the Minnesota Division Sons of Veterans is here, and he will be escorted to the stage and will speak to us briefly.

Chas. E McColley was then escorted to the stage.

Commander Van Sant: I have the pleasure of introducing Col. Chas. E. McColley, Colonel of the Minnesota Division Sons of Veterans.

Col. Chas. E. McColley: Mr. Commander and fathers of the Grand Army: It is through no merit of mine that I stand here to-day, but I can assure you that I am truly glad, and that it is my privilege to be a son. My father, who now occupies an invalid's chair, bore his musket in the army and made it possible for

me to stand in this exalted place to-day. I come before you through the kindness of your Commander to represent for a moment the Sons of Veterans. Fathers, I believe that you will bear me out when I say to you this afternoon that the boys that you have reared are as brave as their fathers, for your blood flows in our veins. We are as fearless as you because we are born of your bone and of your flesh. I believe that we are as loyal as you, for I point you, our fathers, to the fact that it was a company of Sons of Veterans Guards that was first on the scene in Chicago during the late riot there. (Applause.) We are boasting not, only through the record that our fathers made for us. We are proud of the rich legacy that you gave us, and because you were brave, we are brave. I believe that to-day, should there come danger to our flag that you would find the boys of '95 as loyal as the boys of '64 and '65. (Applause.) And I am not boasting either, fathers, when I tell you that; only this, I am boasting of the fathers that bore us; and that is all. I come before you this afternoon to plead with you in behalf of the Sons of Veterans. I wish it were possible to be introduced to some of you; I shall stay here for that purpose. I come because the project and the office that I hold is dear to my heart. I love the sons and I love the fathers who made it possible that we might have such a grand organization. A father said to me yesterday, "I wish it were possible that, in some way, the sons might come in now and bear the burdens that rest upon the fathers." Your places will soon be vacated, and if the old flag is ever upheld and ever maintained it will be through the sons that you have born; and I come before you this afternoon to plead with you for the organization of the Sons of Veterans, for I believe that we are worthy. I believe that the Sons of Veterans today occupy the place that the little drummer occupied upon the field. Why, when the drummer of Napoleon who had been told to beat a

retreat by his commander,—Napoleon was not there—he looked up into the face of the man and said, "I do not know how to beat a retreat, but I can beat a charge that will awaken the dead." The drum began to roll and those soldiers began to advance and the victory was theirs. Mr. Commander, I thank you most kindly. (Applause.)

Commander Van Sant: That committee is not yet ready to report; they say they are not half through, so you see what trouble you got into by not taking the old Board.

Comrade Barto, chairman of Committee on Resolutions: Here is a resolution handed in by Post 67, which I will read, and I move its adoption.

Resolved, that Comrade Wm. C. Roberts, of Post No. 67, Detroit, Minn., be restored to honors of Past Post Commander for the following reasons: He obtained a charter and organized the Post at Detroit, November 29th, 1871, and was elected Commander and served one year. The Post has never surrendered its charter, but without fault of the Post, when the Department was suspended, reorganized with new name and number. The comrade has continuously been a member in good standing to the present time.

T. J. MARTIN, Chaplain Post 67.

GEORGE W. GRANT, Post 67.

M. S. CONVERSE, Post 67.

W. R. MORTON, Com. Choate Post 67,

G. A. R. Dept. Minn.

Motion prevailed.

The following comrades were duly elected as representatives and alternates to the 29th National Encampment, to be held at Louisville in September, 1895:

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT—AT LARGE.

L. O. Merriam, Post 73, Minneapolis.

Edwin Dunn, Post 44, Rochester.

ALTERNATES.

Joseph Weinman, Post 163, Minneapolis.

Robert Scarf, Post 95, Pipestone.

DELEGATES BY DISTRICTS.

- 1st Dist., C. W. Ackley, Post 3, Spring Valley.
2d " Harrison White, Post 166, Beaver Creek.
3d " A. F. Foster, Post 35, Litchfield.
4th " Henry Hazenwinkle, Post 8, St. Paul.
5th " E. W. Mortimer, Post 4, Minneapolis.
6th " M. W. Bates, Post 128, Duluth.
7th " J. P. Davis, Post 138, Battle Lake.

ALTERNATES BY DISTRICTS.

- 1st Dist., Henry Reynolds, Post 27, Waseca.
2d " J. H. Baker, Post 19, Mankato.
3d " J. F. Wyman, Post 83, Northfield.
4th " F. C. Mallory, Post 20, St. Paul.
5th " Thomas Downs, Post 126, Minneapolis.
6th " C. F. Macdonald, Post 134, St. Cloud.
7th " J. A. McConkey, Post 33, Fergus Falls.

Comrade Starkweather, Post No. 126, Minneapolis,
read the following.

Resolved, that the Fifteenth Encampment, Department Minnesota G. A. R., in Convention assembled, extend their heartfelt thanks to the officials and citizens of St. Paul, for their cordial and royal hospitality extended to the representatives of the Grand Army of the Republic and visiting comrades and their families.

Resolved, further, that our thanks are especially due to Comrades chairman Mahan, Becker, Brigham and the members of the committee who have had charge of these arrangements.

Motion for the adoption of the resolution prevailed.

Past Department Commander Lange: I have a resolution which I would like to introduce at this time. I think you will all vote upon it.

WHEREAS, many heavy burdens are, during these days, resting on our beloved comrade Jack Mullin,

Resolved, that the comrades of the Fifteenth Annual Encampment of the Department of Minnesota, G. A. R., send their fraternal and loving greeting to Comrade Mullin; hoping that his health may be fully restored to him and that the sun of prosperity may again shine brightly on him—and assuring him that never will our affection for him fail him, either in prosperity or adversity.

Comrade Lange: I move that this be adopted by a rising vote.

The motion was put by the Commander and all in attendance rose.

Commander Van Sant: I will just state that this is the second rising vote on this resolution.

Comrade Lange: I then move that they rise again.

Commander Van Sant: You cannot rise too many times for fighting Jack Mullen.

Comrade Hopkins, Franklin Post No. 116, Morton: I have here a bill that is going before the Legislature; it is in regard to the matter of the memorial monument. We would like to have an expression of this Department in the matter. Shall it be read?

(Cries of "Go ahead.")

A Comrade, Post 67: If it is in order I would move that the rules be suspended and the list of the delegates at large be elected by the Adjutant-General casting the vote for them.

Commander Van Sant: That would be out of order as several candidates have been nominated and it can not be done.

Comrade Hopkins then read preamble as follows:

To the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

WHEREAS, the members of the Association of the Grand Army of the Republic, of the State of Minnesota, now assembled in the city of St. Paul, at their Fifteenth Annual Encampment, has learned that an act has been, or will be, introduced into your honorable body for the purpose of obtaining from the state an appropriation for the purpose of purchasing a small tract of land, which will embody the old site of Fort Ridgely, and for the erection of a suitable monument thereon to commemorate to future generations the siege of said Fort by the Sioux Indians in the year 1862, and the important part taken by said Fort in the preservation of the State of Minnesota from devastation by said Sioux Indians, on that memorable occasion.

Now, Therefore, Resolved, that the Grand Army of the Republic of the State of Minnesota, assembled as aforesaid, do hereby heartily approve the object of said Act, and most respectfully petition your honorable body to pass the same, at the present session of this Legislature.

Comrade Hopkins: I move that this preamble be adopted.

Motion seconded.

A Comrade: I move that this preamble be laid on the table.

Motion seconded. (Cries of "Vote it down.")

Upon being put the motion was declared lost.

Commander Van Sant: The question is now upon the original motion.

Motion prevailed.

Comrade Reed was asked to take the chair by Commander Van Sant.

Chairman Reed: Now I am going to appoint three tellers. I will appoint Comrades Taylor, Espey and Davidson. Prepare your ballots. You are electing one delegate at large. One has been selected.

Commander-elect Torrance: Some of the comrades in the rear of the hall do not know the names of the members who have been put in nomination, and I would suggest that their names be read in a clear and distinct manner so that they can all hear.

Commander Van Sant: Edwin Dunn, you all know him; Gideon S. Ives, you all know him; John Peck, you all know him; C. W. McKay, you all know who that is. Dunn, Ives, Peck, McKay, can you hear that?

Comrade Ives: This is the first time that I knew that I had been nominated, and I would say that it is possible that I shall not be able to attend that Encampment in September, or whatever time that Encampment meets. I believe we have a term of court and I

shall be obliged to attend. I am not under any indictment to attend any term of court, but in my professional capacity. For that reason I think it justice to those present and those who have nominated me to withdraw.

Commander Van Sant: Comrade Ives withdraws. That is the manly way to do.

Chairman of Committee on Resolutions: Comrades, we have had several resolutions before us with regard to the building of a monument at the State Capitol in memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Union who went from Minnesota. We have drawn the following resolution to cover that. There were several of them, and we have endeavored to cover all the ground as near as we can. Of course every man knows that we are about to build a new state capitol, and when that new state capitol is built, we feel that we have a right to demand that in the grounds of that capitol shall be placed a monument to the soldiers that went to the war from Minnesota (cries of, "That is right"). We therefore offer the following resolution:

Resolved, that it is the sense of this Encampment, that at such time as the people of this State shall feel able to erect a new capitol for the State, that upon the grounds of the capitol so erected there should be placed a noble monument to commemorate and honor all Minnesota soldiers who gave their lives as the last and highest testimonial of their devotion to their country.

Chairman committee on Resolutions: We move the adoption of the resolution.

Motion was seconded.

Commander-elect Torrance: I would like to just make a remark here. I think credit ought to be given where credit is due, and as far as I am concerned this proposition was first submitted by the members of Hold the Fort Post. Commander Wellman sent me a copy of the resolution adopted by that Post covering this very matter, and I received those resolutions ten days or

two weeks ago and handed them to the committee, and so far as I know the voice from that Post was the first voice raised in this matter.

A Comrade: I move that the resolution be adopted as the resolution of the Hold the Fort Post.

Motion was seconded, put and carried.

Comrade Baker: I have been requested to prepare a resolution regarding pensions. I have done it very hastily here upon my knee, just a moment ago, but I am satisfied that it embraces a great deal. It is not voluminous, but it is potential. (A voice: "Fire away.") It is as follows:

Resolved, that we re-affirm all that has been heretofore expressed by this Department upon the subject of pensions. And in addition thereto, we point to the late official report of the Commissioner of Pensions covering the official year 1894, wherein by an analysis of the statements and figures, it is clearly shown that no charges of fraud whatever are presented or proven against a single soldier of the late army of the Union. Attorneys, pension agents, surgeons and other such persons, are charged with various species of fraud in connection with pensions, some of whom have been indicted and convicted; but we proudly point to the official report as a complete refutation of the oft-repeated charges that the pension rolls abound in fraud. (Applause.)

Motion for its adoption prevailed.

Jos. Weinman having been placed in nomination for alternate delegate at large was declared elected by the Commander, the Assistant Adjutant-General having cast the vote of the Encampment.

Comrade Robert Scarf was nominated. Nomination seconded.

Pursuant to motion the Assistant Adjutant-General was instructed to cast the ballot of the Encampment.

Commander Van Sant: We will now proceed to the installation of officers. Perry Starkweather will officiate. I surrender the gavel to him now for that purpose.

Comrade Bromwich, Oliver P. Morton Post, Minneapolis: I rise to my feet to make a motion that the thanks of this Department be and are hereby extended to Comrade Castle who I think has done an immense sight of work for us at the old Soldiers' Home. I know he will appreciate it.

Motion was seconded, put and carried.

Comrade Davidson, chairman of tellers, here announced the vote for delegates at large to the National Encampment.

Comrade Montgomery, chairman of Board of Council of Administration: Your committee make the following recommendations and respectfully ask that they be adopted:

1st. That the bond of the Assistant Adjutant-General be fixed at \$2,000, and that of the Assistant Quartermaster-General at \$10,000 for the ensuing year.

2d. That the salary of the Assistant Quartermaster-General be fixed at \$300 for the coming year.

3d. That the usual sum of \$25 be paid the Department Chaplain for the past year.

4th. That 500 copies of the proceedings of the present session be printed in pamphlet form as heretofore.

THOS. MONTGOMERY,
R. C. LIVINGSTON,
J. M. D. CRAFT,
P. STARKWEATHER,
L. W. COLLINS.

A Comrade: I move that they be adopted.

Motion was seconded, put and carried.

Comrade Espy: The Roll of Honor ought to be published in our proceedings, and I move that they be published in our regular proceedings hereafter.

Motion seconded, put and carried.

Comrade Baker: The Committee on Resolutions desire to make a further report.

Resolved, that the Commander be authorized to appoint a committee of five to consider and devise a method by which a monu-

ment shall be erected in memory of the loyal women of the war, for the preservation of the Union, in conformity with the action of this Encampment heretofore taken in said matter, of which committee the Department Commander shall be ex-officio chairman.

A Comrade: I move the adoption of the report.

Motion seconded, put and carried.

Commander Van Sant: I am informed that we have a deaf and dumb quartet here. Comrade Mero, I believe, is the leader of it.

Comrade Mero then called Comrades Kelly, Hicks, and Reynolds, all of Post 119, Minneapolis, to his assistance and started for the stage.

Commander Van Sant: That is putting you to a pretty severe test, comrades. I believe if you can stand this you can stand anything.

Comrade Mero (after arriving on the stage—looking around): They are not all here.

Commander Van Sant: How many do you think there are in a quartet?

Comrade Mero: I thought there were eight. (Loud applause. Cries of "Photographs" and "Don't spring a kodak.")

The quartet then sang. After each verse there was applause and laughter and cries of "Do it some more," until they responded to an encore.

Comrade Mero: I tell you this is hard work, boys. I do not know what we can sing now unless it is "Old Shady," but since our last Encampment, he has passed to the Great Beyond, but his memory still remains and we will try to sing that grand old piece.

The quartet then sang "Old Shady" which was followed by loud applause and cries of "Good."

Commander Van Sant: Comrade Beden reports that he has seen the ladies and extended our greetings to them, so I will discharge the committee as we will not

need them until another year. Everything comes to him who waits. The committee on Council of Administration report that the comrades receiving the largest number of votes, for members of the Council of Administration, are: Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul; Perry Starkweather, Minneapolis; R. C. Livingston, Spring Valley; John T. Graham, Good Thunder; W. D. Ten Brook, Duluth, and I declare them elected as the Council of Administration for the ensuing year.

A Comrade: I move that the report of the ladies of the Sons of Veterans be accepted.

Motion seconded, put and carried.

Commander Van Sant: I will ask the officers who have been elected to come forward and take their seats upon the stage.

The following resolution was offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the thanks of this Encampment are hereby cordially tendered to Commander Van Sant for the vigor, promptness, impartiality, and marked ability which has characterized his administration of the executive office. And now, in his retiracy, he carries with him our best wishes for his future prosperity and happiness. And be it further

Resolved, that a committee be appointed to secure a proper testimonial for the retiring Commander.

Comrade Starkweather then installed the officers according to the Ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Comrade Starkweather (addressing Department Commander Torrance): You will now announce your Assistant Adjutant-General.

Commander Torrance: Comrade J.K. Mertz. (Loud and tremendous applause.)

Comrade Starkweather (addressing Commander Torrance): I will ask you to appoint your Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Commander Torrance: E. M. Leavens. (Loud applause.)

Past Commanduer Van Sant then stepped forward and addressed the Encampment as follows:

One year ago my successor in office delivered into my care this flag of the Department and gave me strict instructions to guard it well. I have done so. And now it becomes my pleasant duty to turn this flag over to you, and I know that the young man who went forth in the prime of his young manhood and fought to save the flag,—that this same man, in his maturer years, will defend it also. To the old soldier the flag is an inspiration. We cannot explain it. It is his Bible, his Creed, his Religion. And remember, Comrades, that the same old flag which was carried by Washington, that was present at Yorktown when the victory there was complete, was the same flag which was carried through the late war; that went with Old Sherman from Atlanta to the Sea, and was present with us on every campaign in that terrible war. It is the same old flag that we all love so well, and which should float upon every school-house in our state and upon every public building and place where any flag should float. (Applause.) I turn it over to you, knowing full well that you will guard it well; and I desire o say in surrendering it to my successor, that you have given me the best that you have. Nothing that you could do for me or say for me is better than to have made me your Department Commander. And, as I said in my address of yesterday, if I can hold your esteem and respect, if I can have your love for the remaining years, my cup of happiness is full and overflowing. (Applause.) I now pass the flag into the hands of my successor, Comrade Torrance.

Commander Torrance: Comrade Van sant, and Comrades of the Department of Minnesota: This is the first time in my life that I have ever placed my hand upon this flag in an official capacity. I have often een it placed in

the hands of others. I have seen it borne bravely and heroically by others. I can this hour recall the faces of comrades who died under its folds. I can remember when it was the only bright spot upon the sky as we marched through the South-land, seeking to bring our erring brothers back and to save this country, established throught the sufferings and sacrifices of our forefathers. But it has never fallen to my lot until today to take it in my hands. I consider it a sacred trust, and I pledge you, my comrades, that I shall do nothing—I am sure I will do nothing—to bring discredit upon it. I am glad to receive it from a Comrade's hand; I am glad to receive it from so true a Comrade's hand and heart as that of our past Department Commander, Van Sant. I feel that I do not possess the qualifications or ability to perform the duties of my office as well as my predecessor, but I consider it a great honor to walk in the foot-steps of such a worthy comrade, and to follow such true men as have preceded him in this high office.

Comrades, I ask again that the many manifestations of kindness and regard that you have shown me today, you will keep fresh in your hearts through the year upon which we have entered, and that I will have your assistance and co-operation during the entire work of the year. When you go back home, carry with you the enthusiasm, good feeling and good influences of this grand meeting, and communicate this enthusiasm and this lofty spirit of patriotism to your comrades, and especially to those who may be discouraged, and let us make this coming year the best year of our lives. There is no reason why we should not continue to grow and increase in numbers and influence and strength in the State of Minnesota. There are many outside the order; they cannot afford to stay out; they do not understand what they are missing when they withhold themselves from our fellowship. Let us go out after them and in one way or another win them to our comradeship and see that they become members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The Grand Army of

the Republic, which is simply a continuation of the Grand Army of the Union, was born long years ago. We sometimes say that the Grand Army of the Republic was organized in April, 1866, but it was born before that. It was born when the hand of treason was lifted against this flag in April, 1861, (applause) when the immortal Lincoln, in his extremity, called for help that the government might be saved, and when you and I, with fleet feet and ready hands and courageous hearts, rallied around this flag in great companies—and thousands of heroes paid the full measure of their devotion—sealing their loyalty to their country and to their country's cause by their life's blood.

I thank you, comrades. (Loud applause.)

(Cries of "Jake, Jake, Jake.")

Comrade Mertz responded as follows:

Commander and Comrades: I am not able to make very much of a speech, but I cannot help saying a few words. I have just got out of a sick bed, so that I might be here with you. I have suffered considerably in the last five or six weeks. Five weeks ago it was but a question whether I today would be in camp on the other side with Comrade Parker and other comrades gone before, or be here; but thanks to God, by the aid of Providence and good care, and the cheerful, kind and fraternal words, letters and resolutions that I have received from comrades throughout this department, I am so far recovered so that I am able to be with you today.

A comrade, a good comrade, said to me one day, "Have you ever thought that this might be your last?" I said, "Yes, I have, but I have one satisfaction, comrade, and that is this: I contracted this sickness by over zealous work for the grandest organization on the face of the earth, the Grand Army of the Republic and the stars and stripes." You have been more than kind to me today—more than I expected. I thank you comrades, and all I can say is that if I am spared another year I

shall continue the same work, as I have before, for our organization. I thank you. (Applause).

(Comrade McCarty, senior vice commander, was called for).

Comrade McCarty responded as follows: Mr. Commander and Comrades: The hour is getting late. I expect to visit some of you at the posts in the vicinity pretty soon and will then inflict upon you such a commonplace speech as I may be able to make, but I will not attempt that this time. I thank you.

(Comrade Wood, junior vice commander, was called for).

Comrade Wood responded as follows:

Comrades: I suppose that you simply call me out to look at me. You have heard the elegant speeches that have been made today. You have had in your presence and before you grand men and beautiful women and I am certain that I can do nothing to add to what you have already heard.

Comrade Barto: We have with us here a very modest man—(Commander Van Sant: "Is that me?") That is not the name I have known you by—but a man that I believe every member of this department would like to hear. He is an elegant talker; he is one of the best speech makers that there is in this country in a certain way. He is the oldest living Grand Army man today upon the earth. He is the man who assisted Dr. Stevenson in organizing and bringing forth the Grand Army of the Republic—that is Comrade Phelps, who I see sitting behind me here, and I know you want to look at him just a moment. (Applause). He tries to hide, but I know him. It gives me great pleasure to present to you Comrade Phelps.

Comrade Phelps: Comrades, I am something like Gen. Grant, he was unable to make a speech, neither am I. I do remember a year or two years ago of Comrade Lange saying that he would like to have me make a speech, but I said then and I say now that it is an im-

possibility for me to make a speech. I am very thankful for the honor you have conferred upon me, but as far as speeches go you will have to excuse me. Yours truly. (Loud applause). (Cries of, "How about the organization of the Grand Army," and "Tell us how you did it.") Well, I can do that in a rough, offhand sort of fashion.

When the army was mustered out in '65 there were a great many young men, and old men too, for that matter, who were entirely without occupation. There appeared to be no place for them in any line of industry. The number seeking employment in the various avenues of industry around a state capitol like Springfield was, you might say, almost appalling. They were as individuals and committees beseeching, and, you might say almost begging all the prominent men around the capitol to assist them in securing some means of livelihood. It was thought by nearly all of the leading officers of the war of the rebellion that some fraternal organization was actually necessary to help these of this class along in the laudable desire of securing the desired object. Dr. Stevenson, who was during the war surgeon of the 14th Regiment Illinois Infantry, a regiment having gone into the field under the command of Col. John M. Palmer, afterwards major general of volunteers, governor of Illinois, and at the present time United States senator from Illinois, was a whole souled man like my friend Barto. The doctor was very popular in his regiment, brigade and division, which was known as the fighting fourth division of the 17th Army Corps, the latter name having been given to it by Major General Stephen A. Hurlbut, of Belvidere, Ill., on account of the heroic part that it bore in the famous battle of Shiloh.

In addition to his personal popularity the doctor was a most skillful surgeon and by reason of his rank, which was the date of his commission, gave him prominence in his profession throughout the division and corps. Socially he was one of the most pleasant of men and none ever knew him but to admire him and respect him. On

account of the larger number of surgical operations which he was called upon to perform he was given the cognomen by his comrades, officers and privates, of "Old Butch." The doctor went into the service from Menard county, Ill., where he now lies buried beneath a monument which has been erected to his memory by his comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic.

On account of his extensive acquaintance and great liberality, a great number of the ex-soldiers made personal application to him for assistance. The doctor entered the service a poor man and retired from it in the same condition. He decided that he had risen above the position of the ordinary country doctor, and that he could use his talents to a better advantage for himself and family in a city like the state capital than he could have done in the county where he enlisted. He was well acquainted with all the leading state officials and was particularly a boon companion of the Hon. Uncle Jesse Dubois, state auditor, who was the father of the present Senator Dubois of the state of Idaho. The two men were very much alike with the difference that Uncle Jesse had accumulated some means while the doctor had not. These repeated calls for assistance led the doctor to think that some action in the form of an organization was necessary for the actual relief of the soldier boys who were cast adrift without proper means of support.

Being a Mason in good standing and having some ideas of ritualistic work, one night in the month of February, 1866, the doctor, at his home in Springfield, took his pencil and paper and drafted a foundation for a ritual for a secret soldier organization. The doctor had, upon locating in Springfield, associated with him as partners in his profession Dr. (Col.) T. G. Allen, a former medical director upon the surgeon general's staff of the army, also a Dr. Hamilton, ex-assistant surgeon of the 7th Illinois volunteer infantry, and later surgeon of an Illinois regiment—I have forgotten the number. It was consid-

ered that this combination was about the strongest surgical office in Central Illinois at that day.

I enlisted at Lincoln, Illinois, as a private in Company B, 32nd regiment of Illinois infantry, commanded by Col. John Logan, of Carlinville, Illinois, a cousin of Gen. John A. Logan, first colonel of the 31st Illinois, at the age of 17 in August, 1861. When mustered out in September, '65, of course I was but a mere boy, but by reason of promotion during my term of service I had secured the favor of several distinguished general officers and was prompted by them to make an application for appointment to one of the lieutenantcies in the regular army that were being dispensed with limited generosity by the government at that time to those who were deemed worthy and who were fortunate enough to have the proper "pull." My papers were in the hands of then Congressman Shelby M. Cullom, now senator of the state of Illinois.

Awaiting my fate, and on account of acquaintance with Dr. Stevenson, having been associated with him in the same division during the entire war, I made his office in Springfield my down town headquarters. As stated before, on one cold morning in February, '66, the doctor and his partners and myself were gathered together in his office. After some moments of silence the doctor turned from his desk and remarked that he had something that he thought would move the country.

His partners, fain to ask what it was, I ventured to ask him myself. He drew out of his inside pocket a small roll of manuscript. He unrolled a portion of it, and holding it in his hand turned to me and permitted me to read a few lines of it. Hardly comprehending what the drift of it was I thought I discovered its meaning. Addressing me in a pleasant manner his remark was, "Are you in?" I eagerly replied, "Yes, sir." He then says, "You are a good scribe; you haven't anything to do; suppose you take this copy home with you and copy it off in ink in good style and bring it down and we will see

what we can do." I gladly accepted the task, performed the labor as instructed, and in the course of a day or two, when the opportunity afforded, I submitted the work to the doctor. He took it, glanced over it and appeared to be dissatisfied. When asked why, he said that he wished to have me make additions to it—get up something in the shape of a ritual. I replied that I had no knowledge of any ritualistic organization and was completely without material in my mind for such a task. He then said, "We will have to get some fellows together and see what we can do in perfecting what we desire." So it was decided that he should look up some of his army friends and that we would meet in that office in the near future and go to work.

In a day or two the doctor had an assembly in his office of Col. Prince, of the 7th Illinois Cavalry; Lieut. Col. Flood, of the Veteran Reserve Corps, which was then stationed in Springfield; Dr. Hamilton, his partner, Maj. A. A. North, of Springfield, and myself. After some informal discussion it was agreed that the doctor should be the permanent chairman and that I should act as secretary, being the younger of the party, and that we each should make suggestions according to the best of our ability and proceed to draft the desired ritual.

Several meetings of this nature were held in that office, the doctor later inviting Col. John M. Snyder, of Gov Oglesby's staff, to join us. The colonel was a good penman, and when I failed to attend the meeting he was the secretary. Occasionally, when it was not convenient to meet evenings, our little body gathered themselves together in the governor's private room at the capitol, Col. Snyder having sole charge of that room, and it was by his invitation. When not convenient to use that room, the colonel secured the key to the senate chamber from Mr. O. M. Hatch, secretary of state, and we assembled there with the key turned in the door.

Finally a ritual was constructed in manuscript. We thought that we had built one that was very impressive,

but later on it was discovered that it was too impressive for practical use. The candidate for admission to the order, according to our document, was required to kneel, blindfolded, by the side of an empty coffin, decorated with a flag, skull, cross bones, cross swords, etc. Thus hoodwinked the obligation was administered to him and when completed the blinds were removed from his eyes, on his bended knees, hand on the Bible, and he found himself confronted with a file of soldiers standing in firing position with muskets pointed at his head.

It is not now known, nor has it been generally known, that we were moving in this matter at that time very secretly. The doctor had fears that if we didn't keep it secret some evil disposed person in that vicinity might take the trouble to oppose the movement in its infancy and prevent our being successful in our undertaking. We were even so careful that we felt that we dare not place our manuscript in the hands of the ordinary job printing office, as is the custom usually in vogue when one has printing to be done. The doctor said that we should give this out to none but soldier compositors or soldier printers, and that whoever received that copy must take the obligation required of a candidate for admission to this organization.

He had but a limited idea of the amount of work that was required to put it in print. He stated that there was a compositor working on the Illinois State Journal named Johnny Goldsmith, who was a private in the 14th Illinois Regiment to whom he could entrust this copy, and he thought Goldsmith could set it up and work it off at odd times. But the doctor had so many schemes and so many irons in the fire that it seemed for a time that our labors had been almost for nothing. He failed to see Goldsmith, and those of us who had been associated with him in this work by this time had become enthusiastic and we wished to push it. Finally the doctor delegated me to go and look up Goldsmith and see if he would do it. I presented the manuscript to Goldsmith, and upon look-

ing at the bulk he remarked to me that his time was wholly taken up in his work in the composing room of the Journal; that it would take him three months, the time that he could spare, to do the work. I reported to the doctor and the others and it was decided that we should look about the state outside of Springfield and see if we could not discover some kind of a soldier printing office. Such a one was found at Decatur, Ill., in the office of the Decatur Tribune, published by Coltrin & Prior, both of whom were ex-soldiers, and their three or four compositors were also ex-soldiers. The doctor came to me after this discovery hurriedly and asked me to take the train and go over to Decatur and if this report proved to be correct to employ them in printing this work. I found that the report was correct and that they were willing to do the work for us. I disclosed the nature of it and why we wished them to do it, and also stated to them that it would be necessary for the entire establishment to take the obligation required of a candidate, which they readily did, and I administered this obligation to Messrs. Coltrin & Prior and their compositors.

It took about a week's time for them to complete the job. I remained in Decatur while they were doing the work and read the proofs as fast as they were submitted.

Living in Decatur there were several ex-officers of my old brigade with whom I had had personal acquaintance, nearly all through the war, the most prominent of whom was Capt. Michael F. Kanan, of the 41st Illinois Infantry, at present State senator from the Decatur district of Illinois. The captain was a little bit curious to know what I was doing in Decatur during this entire week, when I didn't seem to be doing anything. Secrecy was enjoined upon me, as before stated, but I thought that I could safely entrust Capt. Kanan with my secret. The captain was quite a prominent figure then in Decatur and he has been ever since. As soon as he saw the drift of our intention he decided that it was just what was needed that time; he had thought of some such move, locally,

himself. Upon consideration it was deemed safe for him to consult with several of his associates in the 41st Illinois, a number of whom were located at Decatur, among them his venerable colonel, Isaac C. Pugh and Maj. W. R. Steel, personal aide to Gen. Jas. B. McPherson, who fell at Atlanta, July 22, 1864. They decided that they would make a move to be the first organization in the field if the doctor could be prevailed upon to give them the opportunity.

I returned to Springfield with the first completed copy of the ritual and presented it to the doctor and our associates for their inspection, and on the afternoon of my arrival in Springfield the doctor received a dispatch by wire from Capt. Kanan requesting him to come over to Decatur and organize a post. I may say here, however, that a committee from Decatur had gone over to Springfield, without my knowledge, to confer with the doctor to see if he was actually engaged in this enterprise. The committee was headed by Dr. Jas. W. Routh, a former citizen of St. Paul, now deceased, and also a member of the 41st Illinois, and they returned to Decatur reporting favorably to their comrades. In compliance with this request the doctor decided, and in fact was very glad of the opportunity to do so, and asking me to join him we went to Decatur that afternoon.

Capt. Kanan had been the chief officer of the Sons of Malta organization in Decatur, which met in a hall over his place of business. The paraphernalia for this now defunct organization was stored in this hall. That night some thirteen or fifteen ex-soldiers were gathered together in this hall and the first post was initiated and installed by Dr. Stevenson with my feeble assistance.

After the installation we saw that we had a start, but that there was yet almost everything to be done. The organization had not yet been even christened. A number of us, with Messrs. Coltrin and Prior, repaired from this hall to the office of the Decatur Tribune, and there, after several suggestions, a name was given to our grand or-

ganization. It seemed that several favored the words "That Grand Army," but that was not entirely satisfactory. Capt. Kanan, I believe, is entitled to the credit of having suggested the name "Grand Army of the Republic." I remember, after the name had been adopted, that the captain took his pencil and a pad of paper and wrote out, "G. A. R., Post No. 1, April 6th, 1866." He turned to the newspaper proprietors and asked them how long it would take them to print a couple of hundred dodgers from that copy. Being assured that it would take but a short time we repaired to a restaurant, ate a hearty supper, and returned to the printing office, not knowing exactly what the captain's intentions were. He placed these miniature posters in his pocket, and with a paste pot and brush in his hand we struck out upon the streets of Decatur and pasted these little insignificant dodgers on nearly all the show windows, lamp posts and dead walls of the business part of Decatur and then dispersed for the night. We were greatly amused the next morning to hear the curious remarks of the citizens of Decatur as they appeared upon the streets and read the words "G. A. R." "What in thunder is that?" While we knew that they were in blissful ignorance, we did not hardly know what it was ourselves.

This will explain to many who have been confused in the past about the actual birth place of the Grand Army. While it has been known that the headquarters were in Springfield, it has not been generally known that there was no organization up to this date, April 6, 1866, which occurred in the way I have described at Decatur.

Upon our return trip (the doctor and myself) to Springfield, the doctor remarked to me that I had quite an extensive acquaintance among ex-officers and soldiers in a section of the state south of Springfield. He urged upon me, as a start had then been made, to take a letter from him, giving me authority to organize, and some of these rituals, as soon as they could be secured, and go into this section and attempt, at least, to organize

some posts. Boy as I was, it seemed to be quite an undertaking for me, and I saw, also, that really I had but very little to build upon. We had no charter, we had no by-laws, no constitution, and, with my inexperience, I feared that my labors if I attempted it would be in vain. The doctor assured me that he would go to work in Springfield; that he and Col. Snyder would go to Chicago; that he would go to Jacksonville, where he was well acquainted, and down to Quincy, where he was also well acquainted, and that in a short time we could have the thing in good running order; that he would immediately go to work and get up a constitution and by-laws and the necessary charter, and that he would give it his undivided attention from that time onward. Finally I consented. Armed with this letter and a few books in my grip I repaired to Carlinville, the home of my former colonel, Logan, and also the home of Gen. Richard Rowett, colonel of the 7th Illinois, with whom I had been well acquainted during the war. My first call was upon my former colonel. After some considerable effort I succeeded in informing him of the nature of my mission. He being at that time well advanced in years and not desiring particularly to take hold of any such movement himself he suggested that I call upon Col. Rowett. After presenting my scheme to Col. Rowett and after three days' labor with others I succeeded in organizing my first post alone.

I then visited Alton, Bunker Hill, Litchfield, Hillsboro, Pana, Jerseyville, White Hall, Carrollton, Mount Sterling, and in each place succeeded in establishing a post. I was instructed by my letter to ask of these posts no fees beyond my actual expenses at the place of organization and my railway fare to the next point where I expected to organize. The charter fee was fixed at \$15, the money for which was to be sent to Dr. Stevenson at Springfield.

Of course while I was absent on this organizing tour I knew but little of what the doctor was doing at home. Upon my second visit to Alton I learned from some of

my good friends there that many of the comrades were dissatisfied on account of having sent in this charter fee and fund for rituals and bylaws to Dr. Stevenson, and not having heard from him they were a little bit afraid that they were being humbugged, and by some I was personally denounced as one of the soldier imposters. I was not only grieved on account of this, but was somewhat angry at the doctor for his lack of business methods. I wrote him a very sharp letter and telling him that if he didn't tend to business better that I should come in and cease to have any further connection with this business. His partner, Dr. Allen, also received letters of this nature from his friends in Alton, so he informed me afterwards, and seeing that we were getting ahead with the work he now began to be a little bit interested in it himself, although at the outset he deemed it a visionary scheme on the part of Dr. Stevenson, whom he considered, on general principles, a visionary man. He urged the doctor to attend to business and, now that the scheme had been launched, to push it to perfection. The doctor and Colonel Snyder went to Chicago and organized two posts, the first of which was christened "Ransom Post," in honor of the memory of Gen. T. E. G. Ransom, who died on the field while in command of the 17th Army Corps. During the time of my absence from Springfield on this organizing tour the doctor saw that it was bound to be a success. He appointed Col. Jules C. Weber, ex-colonel of the 18th Illinois, with authority to go north of Springfield in Illinois and organize posts. The colonel being many years my senior in age, moved rapidly and less carefully than myself and succeeded in organizing probably four times as many posts as I did. Upon my arrival at Mt. Sterling, Ill., about May first, 1866, I received a letter written by Maj. Robt. M. Woods, late of the 64th Illinois, enclosing "General Order No. 1, headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic, Springfield, Ill." (blank date; but I will say this, that the date was made to cover all this work that we had been doing.)

"The undersigned hereby assumes command of the Grand Army of the Republic. He announces as his staff Col. Jules C. Weber, lieutenant; John S. Phelps, aide camp; Col. John M. Snyder, quartermaster general. Signed by order of B. F. Stevenson—Robt. N. Woods, Adjutant General."

This letter instructed me to report to those headquarters for instructions, which ended my part in the organizing business.

I did not receive any instructions upon my arrival at Springfield. I found Maj. Woods had commenced a roster of posts, and having been personally associated with the major in the same division during the war, we conferred generally upon the interest of the work, and I must admit here that personally I felt, considering my labors in the past, that the doctor had rather mistreated me. But it mattered not so long as we were successful in establishing what we had undertaken.

Upon the return of Weber, and in conference, it was decided that it was necessary to have some organization beyond the one that was assumed. So a paper was gotten up, signed by prominent soldiers in various parts of the state—whether they gave it their personal signature or not I am not able to state—but a call was published for a convention to assemble at the state house in the hall of representatives in Springfield on the 12th or 20th of July (I have forgotten which), to perfect the organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic. Posts were requested to send delegates and I believe the number was not limited. The delegates came in large numbers from every section of the state and a very enthusiastic convention, as we then called it, was held, which resulted in the election of Gen. John M. Palmer as state commander.

I may say here that the doctor and others associated with him in Springfield were very active in their efforts to sow the seed in other states. Their method was, when discovering ex-soldiers of any prominence in Springfield to take them into some quiet nook or corner, tell them

what we were doing, and if they were well disposed to administer the obligation to them, give them a lot of books, tell them to go home and start it in their own state.

Correspondence was had with Gen B. F. Potts, of Ohio, the former brigade commander in this same old Fourth Division; Gen. Walter Q. Gresham, brigade and division commander in the same division, who then resided at New Albany, Indiana; Gov. Thos. C. Fletcher, of Missouri, a colonel of one of the Missouri regiments; Gen. Jas. K. Proudfoot, of the 12th Wisconsin, then adjutant general of the state of Wisconsin, living at Madison; and several in other states of whom I have no memory. But these near by states were the first to commence active operation. Gen. Gresham was suffering at that time from his wounds received in the front at Atlanta and did not feel able to undertake the task, but referred us to Col. Crawford, a friend of his in Indiana, who went to work and organized the state.

Gen. Potts took an active interest in Ohio and the work went forward well in that state. Gen. Proudfoot was at that time an officer, if not the commanding officer, of what was known in Wisconsin as the "Soldier's and Sailor's League." I noticed while on my organizing tour an item in the public prints stating that this Soldier's and Sailor's League was to assemble in Madison. I sat down and wrote the general a letter telling him what we were doing in Illinois, and as he knew me well I hoped that when this Soldier's and Sailor's League convention assembled, that they would view our organization with favor and, if possible, go into it, as I thought we would be stronger in having several states than any one organization could be in a single state. I sent him a few copies of our ritual, and when this body assembled in Madison they immediately resolved themselves into a State Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and abandoned their organization known as the Soldier's and Sailor's League.

There has been for years, on this account, a dispute in the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic on account of precedence in rank between Wisconsin and Illinois. The Wisconsin encampment assembled in June. The Illinois encampment assembled in July. On account of their having established a state encampment in June in Wisconsin, in all processions of the Grand Army of the Republic since its establishment up to a few years ago, Wisconsin has claimed the right of the line by reason of the rank of their encampment. It is disputed by Illinois, and rightfully, for the reason that the state organization in Wisconsin was illegal, for at the time of the formation of the state organization there was not a post in the state, and I believe that the committee to whom this matter was referred by the national encampment some years ago has reported in favor of Illinois and Illinois will still hold the right in all processions of the national encampment to the end.

Now I want to say here something in relation to others who were engaged with us in this work. To Major Robt. M. Woods, now a resident of Galesburg, Ill., belongs the credit of having drafted the first constitution and bylaws of the order. He also drafted the first charter and signed the first charter, officially, that was ever issued. He was initiated by Col. John M. Snyder in a small room in the state house at Springfield after we had commenced these private meetings for organization. Maj. Woods' extensive acquaintance among the soldiers of Illinois made him a valuable assistant to the doctor and he has been one of its most worthy members ever since that date.

Col. Snyder, in his official capacity, met at some point Gen. John B. Sanborn, of St. Paul, and appointed him provisional commander of Minnesota, and through Gen. Sanborn the Grand Army was established in this state. In fact, in all the states the person to whom was assigned the duty of organizer received the appointment of provisional commander until they had assembled in state encampment and selected their commander and officers in

the regular manner. After having perfected the organization in Illinois of course we saw that it would spread throughout the country. A similar encampment was called for, but national in its character, at Indianapolis on the 15th of November, 1866. The delegates assembled in great numbers from nearly all the states east of the Mississippi at least, and a very lively encampment it was. Indiana's great war governor, Oliver P. Morton, was carried into the hall in an armchair and made one of the most vigorous speeches of his life to the assembly. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlburt, of Illinois, was elected first national commander at this encampment.

As is well known by all members of the order this organization which started out and had its birth in Illinois with so much promise died, you may say, almost as soon as it was born. The cause of its sudden demise was one little line in the obligation that the candidate was required to take upon being initiated. That line read something like this, among other things the candidate obligated himself to do, was, "All things being equal to vote for the soldiers."

In a great many of these posts that I have stated were organized there probably never was a second meeting held. We felt gloomy over the prospect and did not see any way out. Those of us who were associated with Doctor Stevenson fought him on this particular line in a mild way, but feeling that he was the prime mover and out of respect for him we deferred to his opinion and let it pass, although I believe among all his associates there was the gravest apprehension as to the result.

I will say here that the organization did not become totally extinct in Illinois. The post in Rockford, commanded by Comrade Thos. G. Lawler, was in existence then and has been in existence ever since (applause), and is still under the command of its first commander, Comrade Lawler—twenty-six consecutive years in office.

There is another post that should share with Comrade Lawler's post, located at the village of Plainfield, Ill. That

post survived until the re-organization, and then went down.

As the order died in Illinois it met the same fate in other states. However, it was deemed by so many who were interested in an organization of this kind that it could be revived that a meeting was called by a comrade in Philadelphia in '68 headed by Gen. Louis Wagner, and upon the delegates assembling there the order was re-established with the political line left out. The consequences show for themselves.

I want to go back now and state that our ritual that we considered so perfect was soon discovered to be not what was wanted. The Decatur post in working it soon found that there were a great many changes that were desirable. A committee was appointed by that post to confer with Dr. Stevenson, and upon such conference it was decided to let that committee take charge of a revision of the ritual, and also some parts of the constitution and bylaws I believe. At any rate they perfected their ritual and had the same printed.

I wish to go on record here in an emphatic manner to do honor to one to whom I think much honor and credit is due, probably more being due to him than any other man aside from Dr. Stevenson, and that is Capt. Michael F. Kanan, of Decatur. Capt. Kanan at the critical point always came forward with an open hand a well filled pocketbook and furnished the sinews of war when supplies were exceedingly scarce, and his ideas and suggestions were always of the practical kind, and still he is one of the few men who had to do with this order in the start who have never uttered a word in his own behalf—very modestly hiding his shining light from the gaze of the public.

I have drawn this narrative down to the date of the first national encampment. From that date to the present there are official records to speak for themselves. Of the dates which I have tried to cover there appears to be no official record beyond the fact of a primitive rec-

ord which is now in the possession of Maj. Woods at Galesburg, which was discovered in Springfield, Ill., in the office of Maj. Jas. A. Connolly and by him delivered to the state encampment of Illinois at Decatur on the 25th anniversary, or Silver Encampment, which was held in Decatur. There is a statement which is a part of the archives of the department of Illinois, signed by Maj. Woods, John M. Snyder, John A. Lightfoot, Capt. Kan-an and myself, which covers, in brief, about the same subject matter that I have given you here. It was submitted to the encampment by Maj. Woods and was adopted as a part of the official records of the encampment of Illinois by a unanimous vote.

During the number of years that have passed since the first start of the Grand Army I have heard and read of numerous persons who were "In at the birth." I must here state according to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I do not think my memory has failed me, that I have given the names of all who were actively engaged in the work in its incipiency. It may be that I have used the pronoun "I" a little more than would be necessary to make a statement of this kind, but not having had time for any preparation or revision I beg the pardon of this encampment for the offense. Comrades, I thank you for your kind consideration.

(Loud and prolonged applause).

Commander Elect Torrance: I wish to thank Comrade Phelps for his very interesting address. It is a bit of ancient history that is intensely interesting and of great value, and I am delighted that we have been able to hear every word and that it will become a part of the history of the Grand Army of the Republic, for we have had a stenographer here and he has taken every word of it.

A Comrade: I now move that we adjourn.

Motion was seconded.

Commander Van Sant then declared the encampment adjourned sine die.

CAMP-FIRE

GIVEN IN HONOR OF THE DELEGATES

TO THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT

OF THE

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

G. A. R.

AT

PEOPLE'S CHURCH,

THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 28, 1895,

BY THE

ST. PAUL G. A. R. POSTS.

CAMP FIRE.

Capt. I. L. Mahan, chairman of the evening, opened the meeting in the following words:

In calling this camp-fire to order you would hardly expect at this hour and with a program numbering seventeen numbers, that the leader or president of the occasion would make any speech, therefore we will immediately go to business and call on the department commander, Comrade Torrance, who will now address you.

Comrade Torrance was greeted with applause, and spoke as follows:

Comrades and fellow citizens: I have looked upon an audience perhaps as distinguished as this assembled here tonight, but I have never had the honor to address such a company. I feel much like the old soldier who was given to exaggeration, and after twenty or more years had elapsed, his military services grew in magnitude, and, according to his account, he had participated in two or three hundred battles and had been wounded more than a hundred times. (Laughter.) Some wonder was expressed that he had escaped so many perils, and he admitted that he almost lost his life on one occasion; that he had been struck over the heart, but his heart happened to be in his throat, so he escaped. (Laughter.) That is where my heart is tonight, in my throat; and it has been in my arms and in my hands for the past two days, and I think the greater part of it has gone out in return to my comrades for their affection and kindness and regard shown to me. (Applause.)

This is a camp-fire, but how different from the camp-fires of the olden time. Four years of war, terrible war, with all its heart-aches and sacrifices and losses; thirty years of peace, blessed and honorable peace, and I am assured in my heart tonight that this peace, this unity, this liberty is worth all it cost, and I believe there are invisible forms present with us that once could have been seen around those other camp-fires in those distant places, in that inhospitable country far away from home and friends

and the joys of the fireside, who unite with us in testifying that an unbroken union is worth all it cost. I recall to memory, as I at this moment speak to you, three of my own messmates, brave, patriotic soldiers, in the full splendor of their youth, who laid down their lives, that we might meet here tonight under these happy circumstances.

Why have we assembled here tonight, my fellow citizens? Why are we here to recall those old memories filled with so much sadness? Because the war in which we were engaged was a fratricidal war; it was brother against brother, it was countryman against countryman. We do not meet here tonight, my fellow citizens, in any spirit of hatred; our hearts are as gentle as they were in early childhood. We do not meet here tonight to magnify our victories, or to triumph over the fallen foe; but we meet to inculcate the old, old lesson of patriotism and to refresh our minds again as to what it cost to preserve unto us our liberties. Take away our liberties, and how hopeless our case; give us our liberties and we have all things.

But I am to speak particularly in reference to the Department of Minnesota. I want to say to the friends here assembled that the department has had a most happy encampment; it has been filled with the spirit of kindness and fraternal feeling from beginning to end. I do not think that the Department of Minnesota ever had a more successful or pleasant encampment than the one just closed. And now, my comrades, we want this to be the beginning of still better things. It will not do to allow these fires of patriotism to burn out. There are in this state 188 posts, every one of which is a bright hearthstone of patriotism illuminating the broad expanse of this magnificent commonwealth, and to these posts are added more than a hundred corps of patriotic, loyal women, and circles and camps composed of patriots young and old, and we may be sure, as long as the people are on guard, our liberties will be safe.

My comrades, you have put me in a very high and ex-

altered position, for which I am deeply grateful, and no words of mine can express the measure of my gratitude; but I wish again—this opportunity is too grand a one to miss—to urge you to renewed energy, faithfulness and enthusiasm in the grand work which yet we have to do. We must stand together and constantly keep the touch of elbows. You know how it was during our army life—as long as we had a comrade on our right and left we felt strong and hopeful, but when the touch of elbows was lost, dismay filled our hearts. Nothing will take the place of fraternal greetings, personal fellowship and interest one in the other. I heard a story a few days ago which will illustrate how much there is in this "human touch." It is said that an eagle—a proud bird of the mountains—was caught in the hunter's trap, and made strenuous efforts to relieve himself from imprisonment. Again and again he spread his wings, and rose in the air in all his majesty, but when he reached the end of the chain he could go no further and would fall to the ground again. Again and again he repeated the effort until his courage was gone and he would attempt it no more. A companion bird sat upon a craig watching the struggles of his friend, and when he saw that he was discouraged commenced soaring over him trying to induce him to make further attempts to secure his freedom. The wings of the captive would be raised feebly in recognition of this sympathy, but no effort made to free himself. Finally the companion bird came nearer and nearer until his wing touched the wing of his imprisoned friend, and then new life and energy came into him and once more he made the supreme effort, broke the chain and soared away to liberty. And so this touch of elbows, this friendly grasp of the hand, will do more for an old comrade than anything else in the world. The old soldier is capable of doing a great deal for his country and for the institutions of his country yet. As I came here tonight, I walked arm in arm with a comrade from Illinois, and he related this incident: During last summer, when the country was disturbed by

a strike and lawlessness, and the constituted authorities were disregarded, the post at Rockford, Illinois, over which our distinguished comrade and guest this evening, Commander-in-Chief Lawler, has been in command for twenty-six consecutive years (loud applause), that post, in the very crisis of those troubles, telegraphed the department commander at Chicago, stating that its 600 members were ready, at a moment's notice, to march in defense of the laws and of the preservation of order if their services were needed; that one old comrade, eighty-four years of age who lived at the very extreme limit of the street car system in Rockford, said to his comrades: "Now, comrades, don't go and leave me behind; it will only cost ten cents to send a messenger for me, and I want you to let me know so that I can join you, and if I am able in any way to help defend the flag of my country, I am ready and anxious to do it." And that is the feeling, my fellow citizens, of every man who wore the blue and followed the flag—country first, the maintenance of the laws first, obedience to law first. We believe in a constitutional government; we believe in a government where the laws are administered by the rightful authorities, and where violence, lawlessness and anarchy have no place. (Applause.)

I thank you for your kind attention to what I have said.
(Loud Applause.)

Comrade Mahan: The next number we have is music by the Mendelssohn Quartet, and we request the audience to rise, and, boys, sing the song as you sang it thirty years ago—Marching Through Georgia—now let us hear you. The audience will rise, everybody up, everybody sing. (Applause.)

Marching Through Georgia was then rendered by the quartet, every veteran joining heartily in the chorus.

Comrade Mahan: I owe to my friend, whom I shall now introduce to you, a little bit of an apology. I got him into this trouble and I do not know how he is going to get out of it, unless he helps himself out; but he is

the noblest hero of them all. I have the pleasure of introducing to you Minnesota's war governor, Senator Ramsey.

At the mention of Gov. Ramsey's name there was an outburst of applause which lasted for some time, and as he was escorted to the front by Comrade Van Sant it broke out again and ended in three lusty cheers.

Gov. Ramsey: Doctor says he has got himself into a scrape. What kind of a scrape has he got me into? (Laughter.)

Companions, comrades, friends, and citizens, I will try to get myself out of this scrape as well as I can. Some ten days ago I met the doctor casually on the street somewhere and he gave me the invitation to be here tonight, and here I am. A short time thereafter I saw a notice in the newspapers that I was to address this large audience. That was a surprise to me, but I went home and immediately set to work and prepared myself as best I could, for I have been out of practice now for about twenty years, speaking on public occasions, and prepared as I thought a pretty good speech, and had wrapped it well with ribbons, blue, white and red. There was not much in the speech, but I depended on the ribbons to help me out. (Laughter.) Then who should I meet within a few days past but the doctor again, who came pleasantly up to me and said that the attendance here was going to be very large and he rather supposed that the comrades who came here did not care about being instructed in military matters by a civilian, and instead of making a speech I might just as well get out of it as well as I could. Well, now, that is the way he leaves me—I am getting out of it as well as I can. Candidly and honestly, for all these reasons, I have come without the manuscript, and I do not know how I am going to make a speech unless I go home and get it, and you would scarcely allow me to do that now as the evening is so far advanced, but I thank you very kindly for your very hearty greeting. (Prolonged applause.)

Comrade Mahan: I introduce to you Gen. Mason, of Fort Snelling, who will now address you. (Applause.)

Gen. Mason: Whenever I am called upon to speak before an audience my good wife has one word of admonition—it is, "Be brief." My good friend, Capt. Mahan, said "ten minutes." I have made such preparation as will prevent me from trespassing upon your patience or disappointing my friends.

It gives me much pleasure to be with you this evening to take part with the veterans of the great Civil War in reviving the recollections of incidents connected with the times that pre-eminently above all other times in the history of our country, tried the souls of the men and women of the Republic.

For almost forty years I have been in the military service of my country, and have sat at many a camp fire in Virginia and the Sunny South, on the cactus plains of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, in the Dakotas, and the states and territories watered by the Mississippi, the Yellowstone and the Columbia.

Around the camp-fires in the field we would tell stories of the battle or the march. It seems to me a happy thought to call these meetings where we indulge in reminiscent moods, by this familiar name.

The peculiarities of the people of the states, North as well as South, was nowhere more marked than in the army. I had occasion one day in Virginia, in looking for a command, to accost a number of men as I rode through the camps of a division, "What is your regiment, my men?" "The 147th Pennsylvania Volunteers." To another, "What is your regiment?" "The 20th New York, sir." To a third, "What is your regiment?" "The 10th, sir." "The 10th what?" "The 10th Massachusetts," the soldier replied with an injured tone, as though I should have known that fact without question.

The program for this evening announces my subject as "The Regular Army in the War." Like the Massachusetts soldier, the committee assumes that we will under-

stand this to be the War of the Rebellion, and so we do.

The regular army of the United States, however, has had a part in every conflict, great and small, in which the country has been engaged, from the close of the Revolution to the present day.

It is a splendid history of professional skill in applying the art of war to our territorial conditions, and of bravery and endurance on the field of battle during the war with England in 1812, with Mexico in 1847, with the Southern states in 1861-5, and in the unceasing warfare with the savage tribes who have from colonial days resisted the encroachments of the white man from Florida to the Mississippi, and thence throughout the length and breadth of the vast country between the Gulf of Mexico and the British line, westward to the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean.

But I cannot in the brief 10 minutes allotted me even hint at the part taken by our always too small regular army, in the work of developing the resources of the country and opening the way for its peaceful settlement.

Crossing the Alleghanies the army first planted military posts at the headwaters of the Ohio, and on the lakes. Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, St. Paul, and other noted places were first frontier military posts, but are now mighty cities, the centers of a wide spreading commerce and trade. But for the protecting wing of our military establishment, it is safe to say the settlement of the great West would have been delayed for many years, and then only accomplished at a vast increase of blood and treasure.

Much less can I tell in detail of the work of the regular army on the battlefields of the three great wars of the country.

The army made little display in the numbers of the fighting forces of the rebellion, and it is worthy of note that it had been purposely widely scattered by a disloyal Secretary of War in the two years preceding the rebellion, for the purpose of preventing its use by the government

in the suppressing of the first symptoms of the revolt in the Southern states.

So when Mr. Lincoln's loyal hand seized the reins of power, it was a slow task to gather in its scattered companies and regiments from distant frontier posts, and when "called in," the batteries of artillery, the battalions of infantry, and the troops of cavalry, were in demand by the generals commanding the armies scattered throughout the vast theatre of war, for they desired the drill and discipline of these seasoned troops to serve for examples to the inexperienced men flocking in great masses from farm and shop, factory and mill, to the defense of the flag.

The old regiments of the army at the outbreak of the Rebellion were in fine condition.

The active life on the frontier tended to make the men self-reliant, they knew how to march and camp, to cook their food, to take care of their health in storm and sunshine, to care for their arms, ammunition, clothing and other equipment, how to shelter themselves in bivouac as well as in camp, in short they were what you became when you had some of their experience.

In those old regiments from the 1st to the 10th infantry, the 1st to the 4th of artillery, and the 1st to the 6th of cavalry, there were many men who had fought from the Rio Grande to the City of Mexico.

They were largely men who had been in the service from ten to thirty years, and with their training and experience constituted a body thoroughly seasoned for the trials of war.

If Mr. Lincoln could have had 100,000 such men at his command the rebellion would have been crushed in its birth, but this was not to be, and the nation was to learn the hard lesson that soldiers were not made with uniform and gun, but through a training that if done in haste on the battle field costs blood and suffering, it is indeed then the survival of the fittest.

My comrades, you know the difference between the raw

recruit and the war made veteran. You know the gulf that separates the raw levies who went on a military picnic as they thought it to be, to Centerville in 1861, from the seasoned soldiers who marched with Sherman to the sea, or forced Lee to the wall at Appomattox Court House.

An incident in the history of the Third United States Infantry (the regiment I have the honor to command), will show the value of military training and discipline.

A battalion of the Third Infantry was in Washington camped near the White House when the army moved on Bull Run. This battalion went to the field, took its part in the engagement and when both sides were whipped and ready to run, retreated with our people, who you remember started first. You all know the story of that disorderly flight back to Washington. Through the broken route this battalion kept its steady way, every man in ranks, quiet order and calmness from the head to the rear of the column. After bivouacing on the road one night the battalion reached Washington about noon; camp was made in the old place. The afternoon was passed in cleaning clothes and arms and at sundown the battalion turned out for parade as clean and orderly as though it had never broken camp. I have been told by those who witnessed the little scene, that the thousands of disorganized men who were looking in vain for their companies and regiments, were profoundly impressed by this object lesson in the school of war. It was not that the soldiers of the Third Infantry were better men than those who so recently had donned the blue, it was that discipline had made them better soldiers. They were what you became when you had received the baptism of fire.

But the influence of the regular army on the conduct and result of the great strife for the preservation of the union, is not to be measured by the number of troops engaged. It was the military education of its officers, the professional training in its great school on the Hudson, and the not less important school on the frontier or in

Mexico. It was the knowledge of the details necessary to recruit, equip, feed, clothe, transport, discipline, drill and command men.

To manufacture the arms great and small, with the ammunition necessary to use them, to construct field works and defences of all kinds. To be ready at once with the professional knowledge acquired by study and experience —when the occasion called it forth.

It was the military education, the professional training, the experience in Mexican, in European wars, on our frontier, in explorations, in scientific pursuits, in the daily practice of the routine of the service, of such men as McClellan, Hancock, Meade, McPherson, Warren, Howard, Sedgwick, Thomas, Custer, Killpatrick, Buford, Canby, Hooker, Burnside, Stanley, Ruger, Schofield, Merritt, Gibbon, Duane, Rufus Ingalls, Wright, Benet, Crook, Humphreys, Delafield Meigs, Phil Kearney, Scott, Sheridan, Sherman, Grant and many another who might be mentioned, that brought them at once to the front. Time will not permit me to mention some interesting facts in connection with the organization of the infantry and cavalry branches of the service or the staff corps. I will, however, refer to the artillery.

I suppose it is not generally known that the light artillery arm of the army in its organization, splendid drill and efficient service is the outgrowth of the fostering care of Mr. Ponsett, the secretary of war for President Van Buren. Captain and Brevet Major Samuel Ringgold was selected by Mr. Ponsett to make a light battery organization superior to anything then existing either at home or abroad. I wish I had time to tell you how he drilled that battery at Carlisle, Penn., by day and night, in sunshine and storm until men, horses and guns worked together like a polished machine, and its popular name "flying artillery," seemed no exaggeration. It is an interesting story and would stir the heart of any old artillery man present tonight. This battery far surpassed anything Europe possessed at

that period, other batteries followed, and the names of Ringgold, Duncan and Washington are inseparably connected with our triumphs in the Mexican war. The drill, discipline and organization of these famous batteries brought into the civil war a spirit that made the light artillery service, regular and volunteer, second to none the world has ever seen. But my time has expired and I must stop.

The great civil war was many sided and displayed the characteristics of our people at every turn, but nothing will excite the attention of the future historian more than the marvelous adaptability of the American people. They took to the trade of war as they took to the trade of commerce, with the determination to know its essential details, and win success in their practice. Long before the enemy gave up the fight in everything but the purely scientific part of the profession, is all the essentials of the soldier in the field. There was no distinction between the regular and volunteers. We were all something higher and nobler—American citizens in arms to defend the life and honor of our country.

A distinguished general, a veteran of two wars, once said to me while we were in conversation comparing the Mexican war with the conflict then in progress, in the matter of the opportunity for personal distinction. "Oh, this war is too big; there will not be glory enough to go around."

My comrades, it was glory enough for any man to have been in the union ranks from 1861 to 1865. I am sure our children and our children's children will point to our name with ever increasing pride, saying he was a soldier in the Grand Army of the Republic!! (Great applause).

Mrs. J. Q. Adams, vice president of the national association of the Daughters of the American Revolution, then read an original poem which was received with much favor.

Comrade Mahan: Boys, I have the honor of now in-

troducing to you your national commander. Three cheers for Comrade Lawler, of Illinois; everybody up.

Three rousing cheers and a tiger were given, and the applause that followed was only silenced by the chairman's gavel.

Commander-in-Chief Lawler: Ladies, Comrades and Fellow Countrymen: I take this greeting not to myself, but for the great organization that I have the honor to represent through your suffrages, my comrades. It is a greeting not to any individual, but to the Grand Army of the Republic that saved this nation from '61 to '65. (Applause). I am glad, and I am proud to stand here in this great city of the Northwest and see this manifestation of loyalty and patriotism. I have had the pleasure during the past few weeks of visiting department encampments all through the New England states, down the coast and out through Kansas and everywhere this same outpouring of expression and regard for the old soldier that is manifested by the loyal citizens of this great Republic. (Applause). And I was reminded, as I looked upon your honored war governor (applause) that the men who stood by the great leader, Abraham Lincoln (renewed applause), are few. In Vermont I had the pleasure of seeing and listening to old Governor Holbrook, 84 years of age, who was the war governor of Vermont, and I believe that there are but two others living today—your honored citizen and the governor of Rhode Island; and it takes us back, my comrades, to the fact that when the war cloud rolled over this republic, few meetings like this could have been held all over this nation. That sainted man, Abraham Lincoln—think of it, my friends—had to go to the nation's capital in disguise. Now, how different! What changes have taken place in that great capitol city of Washington! And I am reminded that we, my comrades, who are growing old and gray, at that period were the young men of the communities of the North here, who, leaving homes, offices, schools and colleges, leaving shops and business, organized into com-

panies and regiments, into brigades and divisions, into corps and armies, and as our comrade, Gen. Mason, has so well said, that at the close it was the finest body of men that ever marched. While we were not soldiers by profession, while we were not soldiers from choice, but from necessity, we were above all American citizens (applause), and after following the leaders that have been named here tonight—Grant, and Sherman, and Sheridan, and Thomas, and Hooker, and Hancock, and this galaxy of gallant men, whose names are written high upon the scroll of fame of this country, yet side by side stands the name of that representative volunteer soldier, John A. Logan. (Loud applause). And when that army, following through bloody fields through four years of hardship and privation, through the terrible scenes of that period, marched in grand review before those leaders in Washington, the armies of the East and the armies of the West, when the tramp of their feet shook down Pennsylvania avenue, every monarch and every throne in Europe trembled. (Applause). And then came the great crisis in the history of this great government—can these men who have become the best soldiers the world ever saw under the leadership of men they love and whom they would follow to the very jaws of death—can these men again become citizens? And again, that gallant army rose above the soldier and displayed the qualities of American citizenship. All we were looking for was the officer to muster us out and the paymaster to pay us, if there was anything coming to us. We were not anxious for more war. When the last gun had been stacked, when the rebellion was ended, we were ready to take up again the avocations of peace; and how many men who had been fortunate enough to escape the sutler and the chuck-a-luck bank and was able to save up two or three or five hundred dollars and buy a team and a plow and wagon came out here upon these broad prairies and built up the mighty West. (Applause). We simply wanted to go home to take up the avocations of peace. And I am

reminded of a scene that occurred around the picket fire just before we were mustered out. Naturally, as you boys know, we speculated as to what we would do when we got home, realizing the fact that that five years added to our lives had made it impossible to again go into schools and colleges and prepare for the professions; made it impossible to go into shops and learn trades; and these men have had to carve out their way and existence during the last thirty-four years. And one fellow had the audacity to say, "If I had \$10,000 I would do so and so." We borrowed that from him and passed it around, and finally it came to an Irishman, and he had not said anything. "Well, Mike, what would you do if you had \$10,000?" He replied, "Well, boys, I tell you what I would do: I would go out there into Iowa, and I know a girl out there, and I would buy a house and a lot, and I would marry the girl, and I would settle down, and I would look around and hire the best drummers and fifers there were in the town, and they would be mine. No officer would order them around. I would tell them when to come and when to go, and every morning at 4 o'clock, I would order them up to the house to bate reveille, and when they would bate reveille I would throw up the window and stick my head out and would say, 'You can go to the devil with your reveille, I am going back to bed again.'" (Laughter and loud applause). The same fellow was asked once—he was telling about being in the 69th New York before he came to us, got transferred—he was describing the battle of Bull Run and when some one asked him if he ran, says, "Did I run? Gad, the man that didn't run is there yet." (Laughter and applause).

Now I like this idea of the people coming together as you have here tonight, the young and the old, men, women and children, men who served in the army and men who did not. And I want to say to you that the members of the Grand Army of the Republic do not take upon themselves all the credit of suppressing the rebellion. We

realize fully that had it not been for such men as Gov. Ramsey (applause), and that class of men—if it had not been for the men who necessarily stayed at home and furnished the sinews of war, we could not have carried on that rebellion. We realize that it was just as necessary in the army to have a cracker line as to have a picket line. (Laughter). And we give these people all honor and credit. The men that were true to the old flag and true to the government and did what they could to suppress that rebellion, we honor and respect. I want to say to you, fellow citizens, that there never was a time in the history of this people when the great heart of the American people was so aroused to patriotism as it is today all over this land. Now you will see over every school house a flag staff (applause), and from that flag-staff floating the flag of this great nation—the stars and stripes. (Applause). And all honor to the men who compose our gallant regular army, small in numbers, while we number from sixty-five to seventy millions of people, realizing that thirty millions have come among us since the civil war closed, and realizing that there are elements that have come among us that care not for our institutions, the Grand Army of the Republic proposes just so long as we live—as we are growing too old to continue in business and in work—we are never too old to utter patriotic sentiments—and we propose, with the help of the loyal people of this country, to teach all who come to our shores, that while we place no barrier in their way, like our proud organization which takes in men of every nation, taking men of every color and every creed, yet we shall insist, as we have insisted in the past, that law and order shall be maintained (applause); that we will stand by the government of this great republic of ours; that we realize fully the sentiment uttered by Mr. Lincoln when he said, "We are a government of the people, for the people, and by the people." (Applause).

And I want to say another thing for my comrades: That although thirty-four years has passed, nearly thirty-

four now, since Sumpter was fired upon; that the men who composed that great army who were good soldiers, have ever since that period been good citizens. You show me a man that was a good, true soldier and I will show you a good American citizen. (Applause). And the people of this great government have honored them with every position of honor and trust. Four of our comrades have been presidents of this great republic (applause), and, without any political significance, I do not think it will be a great while before we will have another one there. (Applause).

And now, comrades, while we live; fellow citizens, while you live, keep up these schools of patriotism; teach the rising generation what it has cost to maintain this great government of ours.

And I want to say right here before I am through, to you people of St. Paul, for I have been asked since I have been here what I thought of St. Paul as the place for the encampment in 1896 (applause), I want to say that as I have been around the different encampments, I believe candidly and honestly that the Grand Army of the Republic will honor itself by voting to come to St. Paul. (Applause).

Now, comrades, as we journey down the declining years of life—we are passing away rapidly; our reports for the last six months show the death rate largely increased—let us stand shoulder to shoulder. There is no class of men who stand so close together as the men who stood shoulder to shoulder during that trying period; and let us while we live teach patriotism everywhere; teach everyone in this great republic, East, West, North and South, that we will have but one country and one flag, and that flag the stars and stripes. (Loud and prolonged applause).

Comrade Mahan: We will now have the pleasure of listening to the Star Spangled Banner by Mrs. Fitch, of Illinois.

With a silken flag waving from the right hand Mrs.

Fitch sang "The Star Spangled Banner," and sang it so charmingly that the audience was frantic with enthusiasm and demanded an encore. She responded with "Vive l'America," which was followed by great applause.

Comrade Mahan: I now have the pleasure of introducing to you Mrs. L. J. Taylor, department president of the W. R. C., who will address you in place of Mrs. Clifford, who was unexpectedly called away.

Mrs. Taylor: To stand before this great assemblage of valor and patriotism is an honor not to be fitly acknowledged in words. I come to you as an appointed messenger, bringing greeting of good will and affectionate loyalty to the commander-in-chief and the Grand Army of the Republic, from the Eleventh Annual Convention, representing the Minnesota division of the second largest organization of women in the United States, the Woman's Relief Corps the one auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic. Bearing in mind this high distinction, I feel the responsibility resting upon me to worthily voice the greetings of the loyal hearted women who have placed me before you tonight.

We remember that the chief reason why the Grand Army of the Republic came into being, was that it might voluntarily take obligations to aid the sick and unfortunate comrades, and the widows and orphans of the civil war. The promises given the soldiers during the war in every town and city in the land, that "if death should be their portion, or if they should return maimed or crippled with disease they and their loved ones should be cared for," were evidently not soon to be fulfilled.

Many, once the flower of the land, were dragging out a weary existence, bearing about in their wasted forms the fevered weakness and open wounds of the war.

Bill Nye aptly illustrates the difficulties in the way of procuring government aid for those who were clearly entitled to it. Mr. Nye sought to achieve fame and shekels by practicing as a pension attorney. To that end he took the case of an old soldier wrecked by disease and suffer-

ing from open bullet wounds of a desperate character, from which the lead had never been extracted. While the years dragged slowly away, at the demand of the United States government, the attorney went back again and again in the history of the world until he reached the creation, in order to bring the man's record up to date.

At last just as the small pittance was allowed, the spirit of the old soldier slipped away to God. Fame and shekels were not achieved by "Bill" Nye, but he remarked that, with the aid of the United States government, he had the sweet satisfaction of having given the old soldier a reasonable idea and realizing sense of the duration of eternity before he entered on the realities.

Deploring the unfavorable conditions surrounding many of the veterans and their dependent ones, the loyal women of the land organized the "Woman's Relief Corps" and became auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. Their sole purpose in thus banding themselves together, was the purely unselfish desire to help the G. A. R. fulfill its obligations to their unfortunate comrades, and their widows and orphans.

How faithfully they have wrought let their record tell. I am not here to count by dollars and cents the loyal devotion of our women to the dear defenders of our beloved country, who sacrificed their all on the altar of freedom. Let our record stand—"She hath done what she could."

But I bring the thanks of all our women to Commander-in-Chief Lawler and the other members of his staff, to our newly elected Department Commander Torrance and other members of the Grand Army for their visit to our convention today; for the encouragement of your presence there, for the comfort of all your kind words spoken to us of your loyalty to our order; and to all the members of the G. A. R. for their countless acts of kindness and courtesy shown us in the past. But chiefly do we remember with gladness of heart, our auxiliary relation to you. We are proud of our name, and proud of the little bronze button, so like your own. We are proud

of the Grand Army of the Republic, though our tears fall sometimes as we look in your faces from whose eyes look forth history the sublimest ever recorded. Eyes that have seen the souls of our bravest go forth to God from the prisons of hatred and famine, eyes that have watched the darlings of the home crawl away to die alone in the darkness of the night when the battle was over; eyes that have seen the awful spectre upon whose faces not one may look and stay, reap the gory harvest of the slain where the iron flail of battle threshed out the souls of men like grains of wheat.

Oh, comrades, what our country has cost, and that is why we love it, and that is why we cherish the memory of our heroic dead, and offer continually loving loyalty to the living.

A little child said to another one day: "Why your father has only one arm!" "Yes, that is all," was the answer. "And where is the other arm?" asked the first child. Softly came the answer: "Hush, dear, it is in Heaven." It was a true answer. Every sacrifice, every loss and cross, every holy endeavor of the boys who wore the blue shall be entered with their names on the records of immortality and the nation's regeneration of blood.

I will close with the assurance to the comrades that their record alone will keep them in everlasting remembrance. As Mark Twain said of Gen. Grant, "The magic letters G. A. R. will still bring to American ears as long as America shall last, the roll of their vanished drums, and the tread of their marching hosts."

Comrade Mahan: The next gentleman whom I shall have the pleasure of introducing to you is a soldier by brevet, having been born on the day of the first battle of Bull Run. (Laughter). I now have the pleasure of introducing to you the Hon. Henry Feig.

Hon. Henry Feig: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, and most especially old soldiers: If I ever enjoyed a proud moment in my life, it is the opportunity to stand

and address the old soldiers of the state of Minnesota. (Applause).

I see upon the programme that has been prepared by your committee that I have been assigned the task of speaking on "A Few Minutes' Talk With the Minnesota Legislature." I presume some one informed the chairman that that man Feig is like an eight day clock and that he had better put in "a few minutes." I am not going to trespass upon your time tonight because 167 members of the legislature are here, together with our lieutenant governor, and they are all going to make a speech.

Much has been said here this evening, and well said, and there are just a few things that I will touch upon. The first is this: That Minnesota legislatures, thank God, have always been loyal legislatures. (Applause). The Grand Army of the Republic, my venerable friends, has no better friend than the legislature of the state of Minnesota. (Applause). And let me call your attention to this fact, that as far as legislation in the interest of the Grand Army by the present legislature is concerned, the first action taken was the passage of a joint resolution inviting the national Grand Army of the Republic to come here to the city of St. Paul in '96. Mr. Commander, take with you the greeting of the legislature of the state of Minnesota; and when I say that I mean that the people of the state stand loyally behind them and send out this invitation. (Applause). When they come here in '96, and I feel sure they will, they will meet with the same loyal treatment, with the same loyal spirit that the Grand Army received at the hands of the citizens of the sister city of this state years ago. (Applause).

My friends, how little history has been cited here this evening. One thing has been omitted. Reference has been made time and again to our honored war governor, Alexander Ramsey (applause); but, my friends, I believe when that old gentleman—whom we all love—when he calls to his mind those dark days of the rebellion, the proudest moment that he recalls, and one of which every loyal

Minnesotan is proud, is the fact that the first tender of troops made to that man whose picture you see there, (referring to portrait of Mr. Lincoln hung at the back of the stage in full view of the audience) was by Alexander Ramsey. (Applause).

Again, Minnesota Legislatures have ever been mindful of their duty. As a Minnesotan I am proud of our institutions; but if there is one institution that I am proud of it is the one visited by the Legislature a few days ago, built on the banks of the Mississippi and supported by a grateful and loyal people—the Soldiers' Home of the State of Minnesota. (Applause.)

Another action of a Minnesota Legislature, let me call your attention to. It occurred four years ago. And, my friends, the proudest act performed by me in my life was four years ago, when, as a member of the Minnesota Legislature, I had an opportunity to cast a vote for a \$10,000 appropriation which, according to the best historian that we have, was the turning point in the War of the Rebellion. (Cries of, "You bet.") My friends, there it stands, a monument to the valor, the courage, and the heroism of that regiment which first went to the front when the country was in danger.

Another matter; our Legislatures have not been unmindful of those that served in other regiments from this state, of those that fought on other battle fields besides that of Gettysburg and Chickamauga. Two years ago there was appropriated by a Legislature of this state a large sum of money, from which was erected five monuments on the battle-field of Chickamauga. Thus the loyalty, the gratitude and the patriotism of a loyal people goes forth to you, my gray-haired friends, who are on the decline of life and who will soon answer the last roll call.

I want to say this in conclusion to you: You have done your duty nobly. You are passing away, one by one in the course of nature. We are sorry that this is the inexorable rule of life; but, my friends, I want to say this to you, and take it home with you: The spirit of '76 and

'61 will always prevail in this country. (Applause.) Great times make great men, and if the emergency should ever arise that the President of this country should have to call upon its citizens for volunteers, I am sure an army would rise today, or tomorrow, or in a year, or in ten years from now, the same as it did in '61. (Applause.) You have done your duty nobly. You are handing down to another generation a heritage that we consider sacred. We accept the trust and in the name of the young men and the young women of Minnesota, I say, hand down the trust to us and we will do the best we can, inspired by a spirit of loyalty and patriotism. I thank you. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Comrade Mahan: For a moment now we will switch off from the Minnesota Legislature to the Illinois Legislature. We will now have a song by a member of the Illinois Legislature who is on the Grand Commander's staff, Comrade Roper. (Cries of "Roper, Roper.")

Comrade Roper: "Say, boys, (referring to the reporters) don't put that down, my wife regards me as an honest man, and I do not belong to the Illinois Legislature. Why they want to put this song here I don't know, but I'll do the best I can and sing it for you."

Comrade Roper here sang "Illinois," which was received with great applause.

Comrade Mahan: I now have the honor of introducing to you Senator Hiram F. Stevens, who will tell you a story.

Senator Stevens: Mr. Chairman, Soldiers of the Grand Army and Fellow Citizens. This is too late to be even polite and courteous as the Chairman is. I cannot afford any information to this audience which has been so highly edified, but I should be false to my own sentiments if I did not take this or any other opportunity to express the hearty appreciation which my friend, Mr. Feig, has already expressed, which all men everywhere feel for the Grand Army of the Republic. It is well that bending age and lisping childhood should come and bend at your altar

and do you reverence. I have been deeply impressed during these ceremonies with the great change that time is making in your ranks. It is true, as has been said, you are passing away one by one; but I believe in that immortal sentiment which found its utterance in the sacred book where it says, "Greater love hath no man than this; that a man should lay down his life for his friend." (Applause.) I am glad that we meet tonight in this sacred edifice, because the God of sacrifice looks, I am sure, with benignant gaze upon those who lay down their lives and risk their lives for their friends and for their country. (Applause.) And as I gaze upon this vast audience, as I have heard these sentiments uttered, as music and poetry have lent their aid, my mind has wandered and the mental vision stretches out beyond the mortal ken of mortal eyes, and I see, as you see, that grander army of the Republic which has crossed the River. I see the boy who left his home to serve his country; I see the sad and widowed mother waiting before you there; I see your grand and loyal chieftains, and they bid you welcome in the years that are to come; and we bid you linger long with us; and when you go, go blest with the blessings of a grateful country, and your memory will be green forever. (Applause.)

Comrade Mahan: We will now rise and join with the band and the quartet in singing grand old "America," and bid you good-night.

The audience arose and joined, with a will, in the singing of this song. The proceedings were interspersed with most excellent music by the Third United States Infantry Band, of Fort Snelling, and the Mendelssohn Quartet. No less than 3,000 people attended the campfire, and it was pronounced one of the most successful in the history of the Department of Minnesota.



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